

## Arab League receives ACC charter

TUNIS (AP) — Jordan's permanent representative to the Arab League, Ambassador to Tunisia, Talaat Al-Hassani, Friday deposited the Arab League Charter with the Arab League Secretariat-General, Chadi Khayat, at a special ceremony held at the Arab League headquarters in Tunis.

Khayat stressed that the ACC — which groups Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Yemen and Iraq — enhances Arab capabilities to achieve economic and social development. In an address he made at the ceremony, Khayat said the ACC was "a new pillar which strengthens the united Arab front and boosts its capacity to achieve the common Arab goals."

He noted that the extraordinary Arab summit, held last month in Casablanca, welcomed the formation of the ACC and the Arab Maghreb Union as well as the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Addressing the ceremony, Ambassador Hassan said that the ACC was an advanced manifestation of collective Arab work in line with the Arab League Charter, the Joint Arab Defence Treaty and the inter-Arab economic cooperation agreement.

Hassani added that the council aims at achieving the highest degree of coordination and cooperation among its member states as a step on the path of achieving economic integration.

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## Settlers attack food-medicine convoy to Gaza

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies)** — Israeli peace activists attempting to deliver food and medicine to Palestinian children in Gaza Strip refugee camps were attacked and beaten Friday by Jewish settlers shouting "PLO get out."

Also Friday, Israel media reports said the occupation authorities plan to issue orders outlining new measures against Palestinians suspected of involvement in the 18-month-old uprising.

In another development, peace crusader Abie Nathan was charged with supporting "terrorist" organizations after meeting with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat in Tunisia and France last September.

Nathan could face up to three years in prison for violating a 1986 law that bars Israeli from meeting with members of "terrorist" organizations.

Nathan called the law ridiculous and said he has met Arafat repeatedly since September. "I'm ready to meet anybody... if I find an answer to questions that can save the life of one person," Nathan told the AP.

Nathan, 61, said the charges apparently were filed so many months after his first meetings with Arafat because of what he described as "the lynching mood in this country."

Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank lashed back Friday at Israeli and American critics of their new policy of issuing badges with the words "foreign worker" to Palestinian labourers.

Vice-Premier Shimon Peres Thursday said the Ariel settlement's tag scheme was "unthinkable" and the U.S. State Department called it "offensive."

The storm of protest forced Ariel to alter the badges. From

Sunday they will bear only the crest of Ariel district council without the offending phrase, "mayor" Ron Nachman told Reuters.

A raid by settlers last Monday resulted in the death of a 13-year-old Palestinian girl and injuries to two other Palestinians.

An Israeli court in Kfar Saba near Tel Aviv Friday remanded seven Jewish settlers suspected of participating in the raid to custody for five more days.

In the occupied territories, six Palestinian teenagers were wounded by army gunfire, including a 14-year-old boy from Gaza City who was shot in the right leg. At least 503 Palestinians have been killed since the uprising began in December 1987.

A report issued by the Al Haq — Law in the Service of Man — human rights group said that at least 110 children aged 15 and under have been killed in the uprising. The West Bank group said that 60 per cent of the victims died from gunshot wounds, 30 per cent from tear gas-related problems and 10 per cent from beatings or other causes.

The peace activists, most of them from the coastal city of Haifa, were met at the army-controlled Erez junction checkpoint entrance to the Gaza Strip by about 100 Jewish settlers carrying Israeli flags.

The settlers tried to stop the activists from unloading their food donations, mainly powdered milk and rice, and several fist-fights ensued, Associated Press photographer Max Nash reported from the crossing.

One of the activists was seen with blood running down his face. The roadside was littered with ruptured sacks of rice and broken boxes of milk after the confrontation, Nash said.

Nash said the settlers began shouting "PLO get out" and tearing apart signs that read "Food for the children of Gaza."

The activists shouted to the settlers "fascists go home" before the army intervened to separate the groups.

The army refused to let the activists deliver the goods and also refused to hold them so they could be picked up by Gazans, the army spokesman's office said.

The food was intended for four refugee camps with a total population of 140,000 people who are confined to their homes by army curfews.

An official at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, which administers aid programmes for the refugees, said people were being fed in the camps and that there currently were no food shortages.

The army began issuing computerized plastic identity cards to Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip Thursday to try to increase its control over the population.

In Jerusalem, tens of thousands of Israelis gathered at a western wall in the old city in a show of force marking the 22nd anniversary of Israel's occupation of Arab Jerusalem.

The latest move to issue cards coincided with a demand by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir that the army adopt harsher measures to end the uprising.

"A way must be found to liquidate the intifada," Shamir was quoted by the daily Yediot Ahronot as telling Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin in a private meeting Wednesday.

Rabin reportedly responded that the uprising cannot be crushed through military means, but only through a political settlement.



**SYMBOL OF REVOLT** A small Chinese boy raises the V-for-victory sign during Children's Day celebrations at Peking's central square where thousands of pro-democracy students are staging a sit-in in pursuit of their demands (see page 8).

## Maksoud: Summit fruitful, but unity elusive

**WASHINGTON (R)** — Unity in the Arab League moved much closer at last week's summit, but the problems in Lebanon and the Israeli-occupied territories remain hurdles, the league's permanent observer to the United Nations said Friday.

Clovis Maksoud said the summit in Casablanca, Morocco, marked a turning point for Arab unity by bringing Egypt back into the fold after a 10-year absence and getting the leaders of staunch rivals Egypt and Libya to hold talks.

But Maksoud, in a breakfast meeting with reporters, conceded "harmony in the league has not been achieved, although we are moving in that direction."

The summit's failure to convince Syria to withdraw its 40,000 troops from Lebanon was a big setback, Maksoud said.

"It was traumatic for us not to have this objective fulfilled. We cannot yet have an euphoric resignation about this," said Maksoud, who is also the Arab League's chief representative to the United States.

Bickering among members, he said, caused "a tendency to rush into blaming each other, increasing our divisiveness."

Maksoud warned outside powers not to interfere with the league's three-nation peace mission set up at the summit that is charged with searching for a peace settlement in Lebanon in the next six months.

"We must discuss any other players in the region who think that they can overtake the efforts of the three," he said.

After abandoning plans to send peacekeeping troops to Lebanon, league envoys last weekend patched together a compromise plan which calls on King Hassan of Morocco, Algerian President Chadli Benjedid and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd to pursue a six-month peace effort.

Maksoud also rejected Israel's vision of an interim election plan in the occupied territories to elect Palestinian delegates to help govern the region.

"The negotiations for Palestine are not a fishing trip to see if we have a right to a state. We know we have this right," he said.

Elections, he added, could only take place if Israel agrees first to withdraw from the occupied territories, a condition Israel does not accept.

## Panel on Lebanon to meet in Morocco

**RABAT (Agencies)** — Three Arab heads of state will meet in Morocco this weekend to discuss strategy for ending the Lebanese civil war, diplomatic sources said Friday.

They are King Hassan of Morocco, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, the members of a special committee set up last week by an Arab summit in Casablanca.

The summit entrusted them with a mission to find ways of ending 14 years of violence in Lebanon.

At a news conference in Rabat Tuesday, King Hassan said the committee had not yet found a way to solve the conflict and they were counting on the Lebanese themselves to cooperate in any plan they would elaborate.

The summit proposed that the committee summon members of the Lebanese parliament to discuss political reforms and eventually arrange the election of new Lebanese president. The committee was given six months to achieve its aims.

**Shelling continues**

Guns fired shells into the sea around rightist-held Lebanese ports Friday, dampening hopes of an early end to the blockade of Lebanon's Christian enclave.

Security sources said 30 shells landed near the ports of Beirut, Jounieh and Byblos in the worst violation of a ceasefire since the Arab summit last week appealed for peace in Lebanon.

Political analysts said the shelling showed Syria and its Lebanese allies were reluctant to lift their 10-week blockade, despite a welcome by rightist leaders of Arab League proposals and media reports that the blockade

would be lifted. "I cannot see any chance of the blockade ending before (the Arab League committee) starts contacting the rival parties," said a political analyst. "Even then it is not certain that the blockade will be lifted."

The Al Nida newspaper said Major-General Michel Aoun, who heads a military cabinet in east Beirut, "has rejected Arab resolutions by putting obstacles in the way of all peace efforts."

On Thursday, Aoun said he was preparing for talks with the Arab League committee. A rival civilian government headed by acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss also said it would meet the committee.

A spokesman for Aoun's cabinet said it wanted an end to the blockades and establish a full ceasefire.

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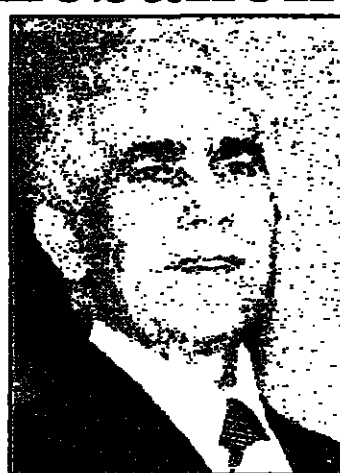
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A spokesman for LHR, a Pretoria-based civil rights group, said they were puzzled about the recent surge in executions at a time when a national anti-hanging lobby was gaining strength.

"People are being notified of their executions at an unprecedented rate. It is a tragic trend," he said.

"But support for our work is gaining all the time. We hope to succeed soon in convincing the government that capital punishment is barbaric."

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Chadli Benjedid



King Hassan II



King Fahd

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Nobel Peace Prize winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu Wednesday called for an end to hanging and a reprieve for the estimated 270 currently on death row.

Referring to the death sentence passed last week on 14 blacks for their part in killing a policeman, Tutu said the legal system was inhuman.

"It makes you shudder that we can sentence 14 people to death at one fell swoop... that includes a lady of 60 years of age," Tutu told an Anglican church synod meeting.

He urged the government to reprieve white neo-fascist mass murderer Barend Strydom, who shot dead seven blacks in

central Pretoria last November. "Strydom is a child fed on the hatred and contempt that are the logical consequences of apartheid and its horrendous racism," he said.

Amnesty recently reported that at least 537 people were hanged in Pretoria between 1985 and mid-1988. The death penalty is mandatory. If no extenuating circumstances are found, for murder, treason and some cases of rape.

Civil rights groups say South Africa's apartheid policies are reflected in the execution statistics, the all-white judiciary being apparently less willing to hang fellow whites.

Of the 117 people hanged last year, 76 were black, 38 were coloured (mixed-race) and three were white.

## Senegal, Mauritania plan talks to heal explosive rift

**DAKAR (R)** — Senegal and Mauritania are to hold a second round of talks in Mali this weekend to mend a rift caused by last April's ethnic riots, Senegalese Foreign Minister Ibrahim Fall has told parliament.

He said both countries' foreign and interior ministers would meet in the Malian capital Bamako Saturday under the auspices of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) chairman, President Moussa Traore of Mali.

Hundreds of people died and thousands were displaced after a minor border incident April 9 sparked off ethnic riots in both countries. Senegal and Mauritania have since positioned troops along their river border.

A first meeting in Banjul last month failed to ease tension between the two neighbours, with Mauritania demanding compensation for property lost in Senegal and the Senegalese calling for an international commission of inquiry.

Senegal has also accused the government of Nouakchott of deporting 10,000 black Mauritians — a move described in parliament by Fall as "a blatant violation of human rights."

Dakar also wants to settle once and for all the border dispute along the River Senegal, a fertile area which has been for years a focal point of clashes between Senegalese farmers and Mauritanian herders.

Senegal says all the waters are Senegalese, basing its claim on a 1933 French colonial decree saying the international boundary lies along the northern side of the river.

Senegalese cultivate land on both banks of the river traditionally neglected by nomadic-minded, light-skinned Mauritians of Arab stock but in recent years the latter, pushed south by persistent drought, have tried to recover these fields.

The government closed a secondary school in the Mauritanian capital Nouakchott after scuffles broke out Wednesday between light-skinned and black pupils, diplomats reported by telephone from Dakar.

The brawl followed an attack by angry Arabic-speaking children on blacks attending French classes, they said. Police were called in and cordoned off the Tavagra Zeina High School, near the Senegalese embassy. There were no reports of casualties.

It was the first time the simmering ethnic tension between light-skinned moors, who make up two thirds of the two million population, and Negro-Africans had spread to schools since last April's anti-Senegalese riots.

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## Democrats seek Wright successor

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The House of Representatives Democrats are trying to elect new leaders in an atmosphere of partisan infighting and suspicion that shows few signs of abating despite the resignation of Speaker Jim Wright.

Congressman Thomas Foley, certain to replace Wright as speaker in an election scheduled for Tuesday, said he hoped to return the house "to a mood of mutual respect and conciliation between the parties."

Wright, who was accused of violating house rules on outside income and other ethics regulations, said Thursday, "there has to be some end, there must come an end" to the use of ethics as a political weapon.

The third-ranking Democratic leader in the house, Congressman Tony Coelho, also is resigning

because of controversy over his personal finances. But the Democrats hoped Wright's decision would finally put the ethics issue behind them.

So they were angered Thursday about news reports that the U.S. Justice Department was checking personnel practices in the office of Congressman William H. Gray, the fourth-ranking house leader and now candidate for Coelho's slot in the coming succession.

The Democrats are the majority party in the U.S. house, one of two legislative chambers in the congress. But the Democrats are the opposition party under the Republican administration of President George Bush.

The Democrats very clearly believe this is a concerted, planned, coordinated effort. It is a continuation of the 1988 campaign.

I think there is certainly a feeling now that the White House is accountable," said Congressman Steny Hoyer, a member of the Democratic leadership.

House minority leader Bob Michel, a Republican, sent a letter to the Justice Department decrying the leaks in the Gray case.



Jim Wright



# Khartoum denies role in Torit air raid

NAIROBI (Agencies) — The Sudanese government did not sanction the bombing of a rebel-held southern town and has no official information about it, Sudanese Foreign Minister Sidahmad Al Hussein said Friday.

"We hope it was an isolated incident... the Sudanese government is committed to peace," he told a press conference in Nairobi.

Hussein, who was in Nairobi to brief Kenyan officials on negotiations to end the six-year Sudanese civil war, said he did not know if the bombing was carried out by a renegade aircrew.

Three people were wounded in the bombing Thursday morning, the rebel Sudan Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA) declared a temporary ceasefire May 1.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Executive Director James Grant protested to the Sudanese government that the bombing threatened the safety of the United Nations' emergency programme to rush food to southern Sudan.

Aid workers said the aircraft involved appeared to be an Antonov transport and said they believed it was a Sudanese air force plane. But, according to the International Institute for Strategic Studies, Sudan has no Antonovs.

"The two-engine plane came in flying low and dropped six bombs and came back again to drop another six bombs," said an aid worker whose organisation has been shuttling relief aid to Torit, 150 kilometres from the Sudan-Uganda border.

Torit has been held by the SPLA since late February, one of more than a dozen garrisons and towns seized by its guerrillas in a major offensive this year.

Thursday's bombardment was the latest in a series of setbacks to the \$132-million Lifeline Sudan Operation.

The United Nations has warned that up to 100,000 people could starve to death unless aid reached them in time.

Several attacks have been launched on U.N. trucks or rail convoys in the past two months. Diplomats in Africa believe the attackers were probably tribal militia opposed to the SPLA.

The UNICEF statement said a U.N. plane delivering supplies to Torit was able to take off undam-

aged during the raid.

In Bonn, a Defence Ministry spokesman said a West German army relief plane took off from Torit safely Thursday after an attack by unidentified MiG fighters. It appeared to be the same plane but UNICEF was unable to confirm this immediately.

The German spokesman said flights would stop until their safety could be guaranteed.

The SPLA said it declared a ceasefire at the start of May to allow the U.N. to move food into the region before heavy seasonal rains made roads and airstrips unusable.

The U.N. hopes to move more than 100,000 tonnes of food into southern Sudan, saying that 100,000 people could die of starvation this year if food does not reach them.

Although truck convoys carrying relief supplies have been attacked, diplomats and aid workers said the ambushers were probably tribal raiders.

Hussein told the press conference that he could lead a Sudanese ministerial delegation in June-10 talks with the SPLA in Addis Ababa to discuss how to implement a peace formula.

## Wounded and waiting

A Lebanese, one of 108 people wounded in the artillery battles pounded Beirut for two months, waits at Damascus airport before boarding an Iranian plane which will take him and other injured people to Iran for medical treatment. Some other wounded have been transferred to France and Kuwait.



## Egypt, Libya move to better ties

MERSA MATRUH, Egypt (R) — Egyptian military authorities have begun transferring control of a border zone with Libya to civil authorities in the first tangible sign of a turnaround in long-hostile relations between Cairo and Tripoli.

A senior official in the coastal resort of Mersa Matruh, 200 kilometres east of the border, said the border has partially reopened.

It is the first tangible outcome of reconciliation meetings between Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi at the Arab summit in Morocco last week.

The border was closed after a brief 1977 war. The leaders of the two countries bitterly assailed each other in the past, with Cairo accusing Libya of plotting sabotage and trying to kill Libyan exiles in Egypt.

Abu Al Fatah Al Safi, director of the information centre at Mersa Matruh, said individuals, both Egyptians and Libyans, had begun crossing the border at Saloum in the western desert. He said military authorities had also begun handing over control of the border zone next to Saloum to civilians.

Most cars will not be allowed to cross until an official opening next week of the border road, which links Tripoli and Alexandria, Egypt's second city.

There has also been a flurry of diplomatic contacts between Egypt and Libya following last week's summit.

Egypt confirmed officially Wednesday that Mubarak met a personal envoy and cousin of Qaddafi, Ahmad Gaddaf Eddam, who arrived in Cairo Tuesday. There were no details of the talks.

A team of Libyan civil aviation officials was also in Cairo for talks on possible resumption of direct flights and the reopening of Egypt's airspace to Libyan flights.

Defence Minister Yousef Sabri Abu Taleb, who visited the border area Wednesday, was quoted by the national Middle East News Agency (MENA) as welcoming the reopening of the border crossing in both directions.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Ceausescu optimistic on Mideast peace

ABU DHABI (R) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, who for years has had close ties with both Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said in remarks reported Friday that he believed the Zionist state and the Palestinians would reach an agreement. "In the framework of an international conference, I'm fully convinced there will be an agreement... especially between Israel and the Palestinians," he told the United Arab Emirates (UAE) newspaper Al Wabla in an interview due to be published Saturday. "Israel's reservation about the conference is just a manoeuvre designed to achieve some of its goals," he said.

### Iranian official visits North Yemen

SANAA (R) — A senior Iranian official had talks Thursday in Sanaa with Yemeni Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani, North Yemen's news agency reported. It said Hossein Sadeqi, Foreign Ministry director-general for Gulf affairs, also delivered a message from Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati dealing with ways of developing relations between the two countries. The agency gave no other details. Tehran-Sanaa ties were strained by North Yemen's support for Iraq in the Gulf war.

### Assad's son top of army command course

DAMASCUS (R) — The eldest son of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad has come top in an army command course, the Syrian News Agency reported. It said topics covered in the course, attended by Assad's son Captain Bassel Al Assad, 28, and other officers, included practical and theoretical military sciences. The agency quoted Syrian Defence Minister General Mustafa Tlas as telling officers on the course: "Our people will not submit to the enemy. The armed struggle is our path for victory and liberation because we have a just cause and we in the armed forces believe in this fact."

### U.S. concerned about Thais in Libya

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States said Thursday that it opposed participation of Thai workers in what is alleged to be a Libyan chemical weapons project and had made its concerns known to the Thai government. "The royal Thai government is well aware of our views on this issue, and is aware... of our serious concern about the presence of workers at Rabta, including Thai workers," State Department deputy spokesman Richard Boucher said at a news briefing. Rabta, near Tripoli, is the site of a factory that Washington claims was being built to make poison gas and Libya contends would produce pharmaceuticals. The Washington Post reported Thursday that the United States had repeatedly requested that Thailand repatriate 270 Thais working at the Rabta plant on the grounds that they would be endangered in the event of a military attack. The workers were recruited for the project by a private Thai company, it said. Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi has threatened to expel all Thais working in the country if the Thai government orders its workers at Rabta to return home, the newspaper said. It said estimates of the number of Thais in Libya ranged from 25,000 to well over 50,000.

### Iranians urged to join drug war

NICOSIA (R) — An Iranian official has called for a national mobilisation against drugs. Iran's IRNA news agency Thursday quoted anti-drug police official Kiumars Abu as saying 6,700 kilograms of drugs were seized and 2,700 traffickers arrested since a crackdown began Jan. 21. All-out mobilisation was needed "to get rid of this disaster in the country," IRNA quoted Abu, an Islamic revolutionary committee official, as saying. Iran has handed 613 people this year for drug offences according to a Reuters tally of Iranian media reports.

## Israel 'told Moscow of its concern over Syrian moves'

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel said it took a serious view of reported Syrian troop movements in Lebanon and had expressed its concern directly to Moscow which it said was supplying Damascus with offensive weapons.

Deputy Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel and the Soviet Union had spoken of the Syrian movements despite the Zionist state's limited ties with Moscow.

"Israel takes a serious view of any Syrian move and is watching every development... we spoke with the Americans on this matter of course and also directly with the Soviet Union," he told reporters Thursday night.

"The Soviet Union has been supplying advanced offensive weapons to Syria. We are not talking about defensive arms, rather weapons that increase the offensive capability of Syria and that of course doesn't advance an atmosphere of peace," he said.

News of an alleged Syrian buildup against rightists in Lebanon last week alarmed Israeli leaders. Officials said they were watching with concern lest the troops turned on Israel.

Moscow severed diplomatic ties with Israel over the 1967 war but has restored some links, exchanging consular delegations and allowing rising numbers of Soviet Jews to emigrate.

Netanyahu praised the Soviet Union for showing an interest in an Israeli proposal starting with elections in the Israeli-occupied territories but he also criticised Moscow's arms supplies to Syria.

"I believe the Soviets want to advance the peace initiative, but their words don't match their deeds," he said.

About 360 people have been killed in the Beirut area in fighting that began in mid-March between Major-General Michel Aoun's troops and Syrian troops.

But a leading Israeli military analyst, reserve Brigadier General Amos Gilboa, Thursday accused Syria of spreading rumours about a bogus buildup last week in a bid to pressure rivals in Lebanon.

Israel says it will not intervene in Lebanon as long as Syria does not move against Israel. The Zionist state patrols a border zone in Lebanon set up in 1985.

## Iran aide 'confesses' that he spied for U.S.

NICOSIA (R) — An Iranian Foreign Ministry legal expert who took part in the early stages of peace talks with Iraq, said on Iranian television that he had spied for the United States since 1983.

Bahman Aqaei, whose arrest was announced in April, said in an interview aired Thursday night that his first seemingly accidental contact with the Americans was made on a flight to Jakarta when he was second secretary at Iran's embassy in New Delhi.

A balding man of about 40, he said his main contact — "Mr. David," second secretary at the U.S. embassy in New Delhi — was a key officer of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in India.

An one meeting in a hotel room, David brought along a man who gave Aqaei a lie-detector test.

"The CIA officers were very crude about foreign policy matters... they stressed the danger of communism and Russians in a ridiculous way to encourage cooperation," he said.

Iranian Television has screened confessions of spying by six men, including a former air force pilot, since Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani announced the breakup of a net-

work of U.S. spies in April. Aqaei, who joined the Foreign Ministry before the 1979 revolution, said he met more than a dozen times with CIA officers in New Delhi, Singapore, Istanbul and West Germany, the last time after the peace talks with Iraq started in August.

He said the Americans wanted information about the Iranian delegation at the talks which he could not provide because he had a secondary role.

After he was recalled to Tehran from India in 1984, he communicated with the Americans by writing some 80 letters in invisible ink on the inner workings of the Foreign Ministry, its plans and names of officials.

Aqaei said when he returned briefly to New Delhi he met a woman operative sent from a CIA headquarters in Frankfurt, West Germany, where the agency's Iran operation was run from.

In later contacts, agents asked him about the effect of Iraqi missile attacks on Tehran.

Aqaei said when he told the agents he wanted to cut off his contacts, they threatened him with "severe consequences."

He did not say when he was arrested or if he was linked with other Iranians working for the CIA.

## Cypriot says church still owns disputed mosaics

INDIANAPOLIS (R) — A representative of the Greek Orthodox archbishop of Cyprus testified in court Thursday that his church still owns four sixth-century Byzantine mosaics an American art dealer is trying to sell.

Pavlos Matheriotis II, abbot of the Monastery of Machaeras, produced a certified copy of land records showing that the church owns the building from which the mosaics were allegedly plundered in 1979.

"They are our spiritual treasures," he said. "They were put on the walls and sanctified by holy liturgy and are part of our Christian life."

The non-jury trial in federal court began Tuesday and is expected to end next week.

The autocephalous Greek Orthodox Church of Cyprus and the Republic of Cyprus are trying to gain control of the mosaics from Indianapolis art dealer Peg Goldberg.

Matheriotis said the last Greek Orthodox priest was forced to abandon the Church of Panayia

Kanakaria in the village of Lythrankomi, in northern Cyprus, in 1976 because he feared for his life.

If the political situation on Cyprus is ever resolved, he said, "The church intends to go back to the area to reclaim its properties."

Goldberg said she said \$1.1 million for the works, which depict Jesus as a boy, an angel and Saints James and Matthew. She completed the deal last summer in Switzerland and said she thought she was dealing with a representative of the Turkish Cypriot government.

According to sworn statements filed in court Goldberg has offered to sell the mosaics for as much as \$20 million.

The case could be landmark decision in the billion-dollar black market in antiquities, according to Walter Hopps, former director of the Menil Collections in Houston, which has one of the country's foremost holdings in Byzantine art.

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19:00 Children programme  
19:15 Educational programme  
19:30 The Friends  
19:45 News summary  
19:55 Message from Iraq  
20:00 A play by Shakespeare  
20:15 Local programme  
20:30 Programme review  
20:45 News in Arabic  
21:00 Arabic series  
21:30 Local programme  
21:45 Arabic play  
22:00 News in Arabic  
22:15 Saturday Variety Show  
22:30 News in English  
22:45 Play continued

**PROGRAMME TWO**

18:00 Corollaries  
18:45 News in French  
19:00 Documentary  
19:15 News in Hebrew  
19:45 Natural Phenomena  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Growing Pains  
21:00 Alfred Hitchcock presents  
21:30 Saturday Variety Show  
22:00 News in English  
22:30 Campus

## PRAYER TIMES

03:52 ..... Fajr

## CHURCHES

05:26 ..... (Sunrise) Duha  
12:34 ..... Dhuhr  
16:14 ..... 'Asr  
19:42 ..... Maghreb  
21:15 ..... Isha

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swefieh, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 601757  
Terresanta Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541  
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751  
Armenian International Church Tel. 625376  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811395  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

## WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

A slight drop in temperatures will occur and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

Amman ..... 12 / 27  
Aqaba ..... 21 / 35  
Deserts ..... 17 / 32  
Jordan Valley ..... 18 / 35

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31, Aqaba 34. Humidity readings: Amman 13 per cent, Aqaba 26 per cent.

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

**NIGHT DUTY**

AMMAN:  
Dr. Yousef Smeirai ..... 821311  
Dr. Abdul Aziz Abu Khalaf ..... 622520  
Dr. Adnan Dabbous ..... 893644  
Dr. Adnan Al Ashhab ..... 622507  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdous pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asema pharmacy ..... 637055  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 626272  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 649545  
Shmeisani pharmacy ..... 637660

## EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate Rescues ..... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 891228  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Police Security Department ..... 630321  
Hotel Complaints ..... 602800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage Complaints ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone Repairs ..... 623101  
Abdullah Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111

## HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ..... 644281/6  
Al-Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642441/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 661646  
Palestine, Shmeisani ..... 661710/4  
Shmeisani Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 845845  
Al-Muasher Hospital ..... 667227/9  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666127/37  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Ittihad, Al-Muasher ..... 77101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 775111/26  
Army, Marka ..... 891611/5  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 602240/50  
Asal Hospital ..... 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)910701  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732  
ERBID:  
Princess Basma Hospital ..... (02)275555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (05)72275

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

## ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

08:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)  
10:10 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
10:15 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
10:20 ..... New Delhi (RJ)  
10:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
10:35 ..... Dhahran (RJ)  
10:40 ..... Kuwait (RJ)  
10:50 ..... Karachi, Dubai (RJ)  
10:55 ..... Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)  
11:00 ..... Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)  
16:20 ..... Miami, Vienna (RJ)  
16:45 ..... New York, Montreal (RJ)  
17:40 ..... Cairo (RJ)

## Other Flights (Terminal 2)

13:00 ..... Baghdad (IA)  
13:30 ..... Cairo (MS)  
14:30 ..... Kuwait (KU)  
15:45 ..... Benghazi (LN)  
17:25 ..... Riyadh (SU)  
17:55 ..... Rome (AZ)  
22:45 ..... Paris, Damascus (AF)

## DEPARTURES

### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

08:00 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
11:40 ..... Tripoli (RJ)  
12:10 ..... Athens (RJ)  
12:15 ..... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
13:00 ..... Geneva, Frankfurt, Madrid (RJ)  
13:00 ..... London (RJ)  
13:15 ..... Paris (RJ)  
13:30 ..... Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)  
13:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
14:00 ..... Dhahran (RJ)  
14:05 ..... Kuwait (RJ)  
14:10 ..... Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
14:15 ..... Larnaka (RJ)  
14:20 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
14:25 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
14:30 ..... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

## Other Flights (Terminal 2)

14:00 ..... Baghdad (IA)

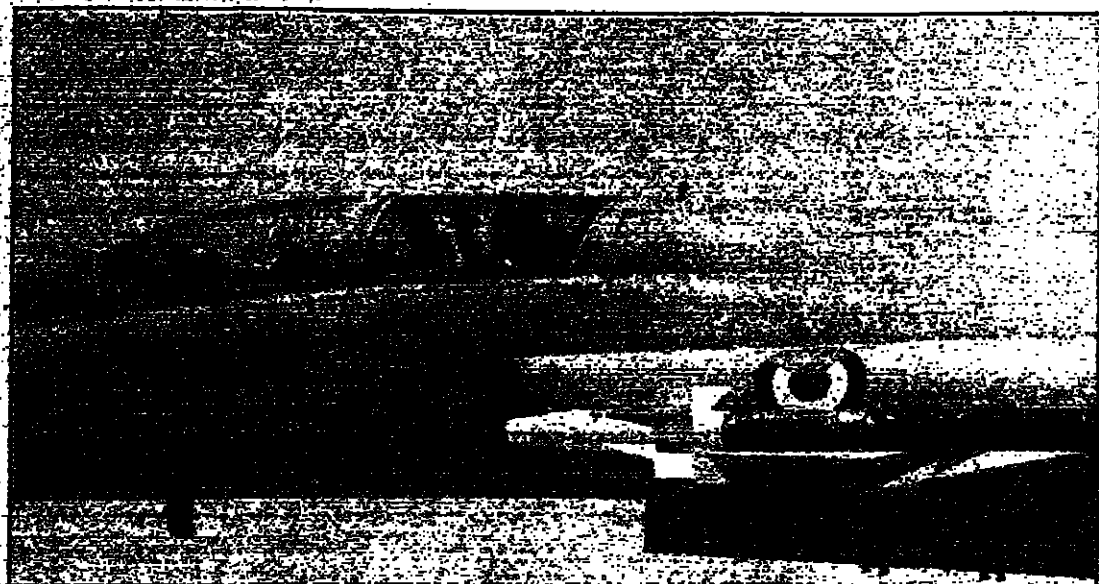
## MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple ..... 700 / 600  
Apricot ..... 900 / 800  
Banana ..... 370 / 320  
Banana (Mukammal) ..... 320 / 270  
Beans ..... 480 / 470  
Cabbage ..... 120 / 80  
Carrots ..... 120 / 80  
Cauliflower ..... 250 / 200  
Cherry (red) ..... 1200 / 1000  
Cherry (green) ..... 720 / 600  
Corn ..... 120 / 100  
Cucumbers ..... 220 / 180  
Dates ..... 500 / 400  
Eggplant ..... 130 / 80  
Garlic ..... 420 / 300  
Grapes ..... 750 / 700  
Lemon ..... 380 / 300  
Lettuce (per ool) ..... 80 / 50  
Marrow (large) ..... 150 / 100  
Marrow (small) ..... 900 / 800  
Orange ..... 350 / 280  
Onion (dry) ..... 400 / 320  
Pepper (sweet) ..... 400 / 320  
Pepper (hot) ..... 280 / 230  
Tomatoes ..... 110 / 70  
Watermelon ..... 170 / 80

سنة 1410 هـ





### BREAKING ALL BARRIERS —

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday piloted one of Royal Jordanian Air Force jets and broke the sound barrier. The flight took place during an aerial exercise by a group of new pilots at an air base in Jordan. Prince

Hassan, who visited different parts of the air base, talked to pilots, instructors and other personnel and technicians. He commended their efforts and praised their high level of training and excellent performance (Petra photo).

### NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

**ITALY CONGRATULATED:** His Majesty King Hussein has cabled congratulations to Italian President Francesco Cossiga on Italy's National Day anniversary. In his cable, the King wished the Italian president good health and the Italian people continued progress and prosperity (Petra).

**FAISAL RETURNS:** His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Al Hussein and Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Faisal have returned home after a several-day visit to the United States. During the visit, Prince Faisal deputised for Her Majesty Queen Noor in attending a charity festival which the Save the Children Federation held in Washington. The festival proceeds will be used in financing the projects of the Save the Children Federation in Jordan as well as developing handicraft so as to preserve and develop Jordan's national heritage (Petra).

**HAI AFFAIRS:** The Ministry of Awaqaf and Islamic Affairs has completed processing papers and documents needed by this year's Jordanian pilgrims to Mecca and Medina. A ministry statement said that the first convoy of buses to the holy places in Saudi Arabia will leave Jordan by June 25. The ministry has announced that only 15,000 pilgrims would be allowed to perform this year's pilgrimage in accordance with an agreement with the Saudi Arabian government. The ministry has contracted a number of public transport companies to transport the pilgrims and has made arrangements for the accommodation of the pilgrims in the two cities (Petra).

### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

#### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An archaeological exhibition entitled "The Treasures of Hasma Desert" at the Department of Antiquities Registration Centre.
- ★ An art exhibition by three North African artists at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation.
- ★ An art exhibition by Ahmad Abu Othman at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- ★ An exhibition by French artist "Olivier Tufford" at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition of cartoons entitled "40 Years Federal Republic of Germany" at the Goethe Institute.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian and Arab artists at Al Wasiti Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by Nihad Qataishat at Al Quds (Jerusalem) Hotel — 7:00 p.m.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "Jadworkshop" displaying cartoons by Lebanese artist George Khouri (Jad) at the Goethe Institute.
- ★ The Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre exhibition which includes maps, aerial photographs, digital maps and remote sensing at the Royal Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.

#### FILM

- ★ A video film entitled "Forest and Forestry in Jordan" at the Goethe Institute — 7:00 p.m.

### MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST

A private medical laboratory seeks the employment of a medical technologist with the following requirements:

1. Male, Jordanian national willing to work shifts.
2. University graduate in medical technology.
3. 2-5 years working experience.

All those interested apply to P.O. Box 830200 Amman.

### VACANCY

The Spanish embassy in Amman has the following vacant position:

Post: Administrative Officer.  
Salary: Assigned by the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Working hours: six days, 37 hours weekly.

#### Requirements:

1. Typewriting in Spanish and Arabic, and knowledge of administrative practices.
2. Sound knowledge of Arabic, English and Spanish languages.

Curriculum vitae should be addressed to the Spanish Embassy. Those who are interested may call this mission within 10 days as from the date of publication of this announcement.

Amman, June 1, 1989.

## Seminar highlights drama in education

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day seminar on "drama in education" concluded in Amman Thursday with a recommendation that education courses be linked to social needs in Jordan and the Arab World, and urged the Ministry of Education to try to benefit from similar experiences in advanced countries.

The seminar, which was held under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, urged the media and information sector in Jordan to encourage drama in education at schools and highlight this form of education with teachers, parents and schools in all regions, with special attention to children's clubs and kindergartens.

The participants also recommended that research papers discussed at the seminar be published for the benefit of the public, and urged concerned authorities in the ministries of Education and Higher Education to issue a handbook for kindergarten level teachers, to teach them this form of instruction. They also recommended that a committee to group the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF), which sponsored the seminar, and private and public voluntary societies be formed so it can follow up the implementation of the recommendations. The opening session of the seminar was addressed by Princess Basma and Minister of Education Abdullah Nsour. It was attended by educationists from various Jordanian institutions and representatives from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

## Conference urges establishment of new department to promote nursing

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first Jordanian nursing conference ended Thursday with a call for the establishment of a "continued education" department at the National Medical Institute (NMI) to promote nurses work in the Kingdom.

Participants represented public, private institutions and hospitals. They also called for the creation of a special council to take charge of reorganising nurses' training courses and ex-

aminations. At the closing session, the conference's chairperson, Zaikeh Nassar, said that the participants reviewed topics dealing with modernising the nursing profession, training programmes and the organised monitoring of nursing services.

Nearly 300 male and female nurses from Jordan reviewed 13 working papers dealing with promoting the work of nurses,

occupational hazards, training programmes, performance incentives, nurse-patient relations, and other pertinent topics.

A survey conducted last month revealed that Jordan now has a total of 2,210 female nurses, of whom 574 are non-Jordanian. It said that the country would need 4,000 nurses by the year 2000 in light of the growing demand on health services and the increasing number of health centres in the country.

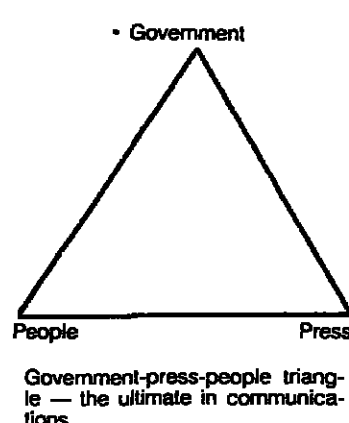
the first signal of the labourious liberalisation process that lies ahead.

A more significant indication of this trend was last week's meeting held by King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan with members of the local press.

The extensive exchange of ideas and opinions provided an opportunity for members of the local press to air their grievances about press restrictions on sensitive issues of concern to the public. It also served to clarify and reassess the national information strategy, which some journalists perceived as "confused and contradictory."

Interviewed by the Jordan Times, one editor voiced the frustration of many in the profession about the lack of a clearly defined information policy.

"We receive mixed signals from people in various positions about what is allowed and what is taboo in our reporting," he said. "There are no clear guidelines for us, and we do not know whether our function is to serve as a mere public relations tool or to provide the public with accurate and timely information. It is difficult to have to listen to the best of too many drums."



In an attempt to involve local media in the decision-making process, the King presented a rather comprehensive picture of the political and economic situation in Jordan and the Arab World in general, a much-appreciated and long called-for move.

#### Seriousness

Many of the journalists who attended last week's meeting said the mere fact that the King and Crown Prince met with members of the local press for approximately

five hours was, in and of itself, an indication of the seriousness of the government's intention to liberalise the press, and of the priority which this liberalisation has been given on the leadership's agenda.

Even more indicative, others say, is the fact that King Hussein and Prince Hassan met with sub-editors and "field" reporters who are directly involved in reporting on a daily basis, rather than with just the editors-in-chief of newspapers and heads of official media organs.

The meeting set the precedent for officials to deal with the local media more effectively, and pointed to the necessity of tackling information matters more professionally, said one journalist.

"Our problem is that we do not have access to officials... we cannot reach them to talk to them on behalf of citizens," he said. "The information minister has promised that he will give us more access to the leadership," added a colleague.

The meeting came as a morale booster for many who had reached a point, where, due to the restrictions imposed on them over the past few years, felt they had lost all credibility as journalists.

Some even said they experienced a certain euphoria after the meet-

ing. At last, local reporters, which had been at a disadvantage vis-a-vis the foreign press, were given the attention they were entitled to; not only from the highest level officials, but from the King himself.

"Since the local press was restricted in their coverage of sensitive issues about the country, people tended to turn to the foreign press for information... local media credibility was therefore totally shattered," one reporter commented.

Another journalist suggested that it would be more beneficial for members of the local media to be aware of what is going on and in turn explain events and developments to the public in order to avoid skewed information disseminated by some foreign journalists.

"I feel encouraged... one economics editor said shortly after the meeting, "I feel encouraged to participate constructively and do something about deficiencies in the economic debate," he added.

He echoed the view that if the "government-press-people" communication triangle had been stronger, confidence in the Jordanian media as well as that of the country as a whole, a senior editor said.

father of two, says that he dreads the future and the expenses accompanying his growing children including school, university, hospital, car, gas, and electricity bills.

The JD 109 made by a 35-year-old airport employee with wife and child, is not enough to cover expenses. When the price of gas went up, he was forced to sell his car, but still, he says, he is unable to make ends meet.

They and others interviewed, many of whom were unemployed, believe that better economic opportunities might be found in the United States which can in turn lead to enhanced self-worth.

As a result of possible immigration circumventing legal procedures, the consular office in Amman questions the applicants for tourist, business and student visas on their background, income and property ties.

The consular office reserves the right to refuse a visa to anyone with no property ties in Jordan or without sufficient funding for a trip to the U.S. To date, 45 per cent of all applicants have been rejected for these reasons, said Kepchar.

If an applicant is rejected, he or she may apply a second time, "only if he or she has new information," he says.

For those wishing to immigrate, the U.S. immigration policy facilitates those joining their families, refugees and skilled workers. "The U.S. will see an additional ten million immigrants this decade," he said, which will be the highest number during the last century.

The council decided that it should convene every Thursday to review matters related to agriculture in the Kingdom and to help implement directives contained in His Majesty King Hussein's letter of designation to the government of Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

The council groups representatives of various ministries, veterinarians, development councils, the badia region and the farmers federation.

Hashish seized

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian narcotics agents have seized 750 kilograms of hashish and one kilogramme of heroin with an estimated street value of JD 342,000, according to an announcement made by the director of the Anti-Narcotics Bureau at the Public Security Department (PSD), Colonel Ghaleb Zou'bi.

Jordanians and Syrians were involved in drug trafficking over the past two months and have been apprehended, Zou'bi said in

a statement Thursday.

The drugs, he said, have been brought into Jordan from Lebanon via Syria. They were seized in separate (PSD) operations before reaching their intended destinations neighbouring Arab countries, Zou'bi said.

He said trucks were used in the first and second attempts and small private owned cars were employed in the third and fourth attempts.

Jordan, Zou'bi stressed, is not a major drug-consumer country.

Without continuous feedback and interaction, the fresh turn in the Jordanian press could cause "disorientation" among members of the media who, having been used to rigid guidelines, now do not know what their limits are.

"An exchange of constructive criticism between the government and the local press is essential because we are just beginning to grope and grasp the meaning of this change," another editor said.

He added that with a flurry of diplomatic initiatives in the region, coupled with local economic hardships, the Jordanian media could very well rise to the occasion and serve as a forum for constructive and thought-provoking national debates between government officials and the public, thereby tackling national problems in a more effective manner.

"If they (journalists) rise to that challenge, it would signal a completely new chapter for journalism in Jordan, adding to their credibility as well as that of the country as a whole," a senior editor said.

## Hundreds throng American consulate in pursuit of visa

# Trek to U.S. begins in Jabal Amman

By Najwa Najjar  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — As early as 5:00 a.m. Jordanian citizens can be seen trudging their tired bodies in front of the American consulate. By the time the mission opens, three hours later, the line outside has stretched to cover half a block.

The long line, made up of mostly young men, passes a vendor perched under the shade of the bus-stop tempting those standing in the line with his sandwiches and drinks. The young men chat and make harmless comments at passersby, police look on uneasily and babies let out little squeals and cries.

At 10:00 a.m. all who have queued have received a paper with a number on it, meaning that they will be seen by consulate officials the same day. This factor, says American Consul Allen Kepchar, "means that the Jordanians who are applying for visas, do not have to line up so early."

According to a survey Kepchar did May 30, most Jordanians joined the line between 5:00 and 6:00 a.m., and no one joined the line after 8:30.

The obvious keenness of some Jordanians to obtain a visa to the United States has led to a rise in "commen", who approach the aspirants and promised them visas for a fee ranging between JD 200-500.

Kepchar warns that these commens will not be able to fulfill their promises, "since no one in the American embassy can take money" for favours.

As it turns out, most of the commens return to their "customers" empty-handed. Moreover, the comman only returns 30 to 50 per cent of the money initially given to them for the visa, "and they (the victims) can't say anything because they were doing something illegal," Kepchar says.

Long queues at the American consulate and visa commens are a new phenomena in Jordan. Many believe that these new developments are a reflection of the present economic and political situation in the Kingdom.

Kepchar noted that the number of visa applications increased during the past six months. Visa applications went up by 30 to 35 per cent in 1987-1988 over 1986-1987 and Kepchar expects a

further 35-40 per cent increase in 1988-1989.

"Over the past five years there has been a steady increase in Jordanians applying for visas," he said. In some countries, citizens apply for a student, tourist or business visa, and then use the visa to remain in the United States.

"Once they are in the U.S. there is no means of tracking them unless they commit a traffic violation or a crime," Kapchar says.

There is no indication on whether Jordanians applying for student, tourist or business visas actually remain in the United States illegally.

But, interviews with several in the daily line at Jabel Amman indicated to the Jordan Times

that given the opportunity most would immigrate to the United States. They said that the rise in prices, the devaluation of the dinar and the stagnation of wages have led to a deterioration in their living standards and that their salaries cannot cover the necessary daily expenses.

The following interviewees gave examples of how their lifestyles have been affected by the economic measures and many asked how can they afford supporting themselves and their families.

A 26-year-old poultry farmer says that chicken feed has risen from JD 180 to JD 400 a tonne, soya up from JD 120 to 230 a tonne and corn from JD 50 to JD 75 a tonne.

A 30-year-old shopowner,

## Parameters and process of application

The consulate accepts nonimmigrant visa applications between the hours of 08:00-10:00 Sunday-Thursday. Normally everyone in line by 10:00 will be seen the same day. Only an American officer has the right to decide to issue or refuse a visa. Other employees cannot make such a decision. Interviews are done in English or Arabic by trained consular officers. Each interviewed applicant will be issued or refused a visa the same day.

All applicants must have a valid passport. The name must

be written in a Western alphabet. The Jordanian passport office routinely writes names in Arabic and English. All applicants over the age of 16 must supply one photograph. Persons under 16 need not supply a photograph.

All applicants must submit evidence substantiating the purpose of the trip and their intention to return to Jordan. Documentation regarding property and other ties to Jordan greatly strengthens a person's application.

All applicants must be in

Jordan or permanent residents here in order to apply for a nonimmigrant visa.

Students should apply with a valid I-20 Form (Acceptance from an Authorised School), proof of previous academic performance (Tawjihi or college scores, etc.), and financial support documents including an affidavit of support and a bank statement. Students with marginal grades or with only a desire to take a course in English should consider studying in Jordan at a community college before applying for a visa to the United States.

## JEA hosts 6-day talks on power generation in Arab World

AMMAN (Petra) — A six-day seminar on maintaining and operating power-generating equipment in the Arab World opens Saturday at the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA).

The seminar, which will be attended by delegates from the Arab World and Turkey, will review research papers dealing with power generation programmes in the Arab countries and Sweden. They will also discuss papers drawn up by consultancy companies dealing with the maintenance and operation of power stations, power distribution systems, and ways to increase power supply in the developing world.

The participants will tour power installations in Jordan, including the Aqaba Thermal Power Station, and will review training programmes for Jordanian technicians.

The seminar, which is expected to be opened by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib, will discuss a United Nations report on power generation and distribution.

1.26m to get power

The JEA announced Friday that a total of 889 Jordanian villages, inhabited by 1,260,000 people, will be supplied with electricity by the end of the current 1986-1990 five-year development plan.



The Higher Agriculture Council Thursday meets under the chairmanship of Agriculture Minister Adnan Badran (Petra photo).

## Panels set up to help agriculture sector

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Higher Agricultural Council has set up six committees to supervise the marketing of produce, agricultural extension services and issues related to agricultural technology.

The council, which met Thursday under the chairmanship of Minister of Agriculture Adnan Badran, also set up a specialised committee to conduct a study on a law on the Jordanian Farmers Federation with a view to introducing amendments that would help boost agricultural produc-

tion.

The council decided that it should convene every Thursday to review matters related to agriculture in the Kingdom and to help implement directives contained in His Majesty King Hussein's letter of designation to the government of Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

The council groups representatives of various ministries, veterinarians, development councils, the badia region and the farmers federation.

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## Credibility challenge faces the Jordanian press

By Rania Atalla  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Journalism in Jordan is currently facing what could possibly be termed as its biggest challenge yet. With a green light on press freedom recently signalled by the country's highest leadership, members of the local media feel they now have a chance to regain their credibility by providing accurate and timely information to the public.

This freedom, from the official point of view, entails an important responsibility for reporters and columnists alike: when tackling issues of concern to the citizens, they will have to deal with information as a link between government officials and the public in the decision-making process.

Many journalists, columnists and editors feel that a trend of Jordanian "glasnost," or openness, has just begun to make its impact on the newspapers in the country.

Local journalists feel that His Majesty King Hussein's 19-point letter of designation to the government of Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, calling for a more constructive and responsible role for the media was

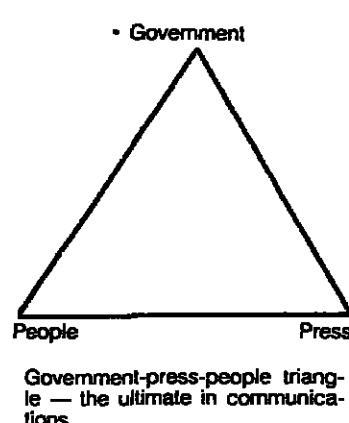
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Even more indicative, others say, is the fact that King Hussein and Prince Hassan met with sub-editors and "field" reporters who are directly involved in reporting on a daily basis, rather than with just the editors-in-chief of newspapers and heads of official media organs.

The meeting set the precedent for officials to deal with the local media more effectively, and pointed to the necessity of tackling information matters more professionally, said one journalist.

"Our problem is that we do not have access to officials... we cannot reach them to talk to them on behalf of citizens," he said. "The information minister has promised that he will give us more access to the leadership," added a colleague.

The meeting came as a morale booster for many who had reached a point, where, due to the restrictions imposed on them over the past few years, felt they had lost all credibility as journalists.

Some even said they experienced a certain euphoria after the meet-

ing. At last, local reporters, which had been at a disadvantage vis-a-vis the foreign press, were given the attention they were entitled to; not only from the highest level officials, but from the King himself.

"Since the local press was restricted in their coverage of sensitive issues about the country, people tended to turn to the foreign press for information... local media credibility was therefore totally shattered," one reporter commented.

Another journalist suggested that it would be more beneficial for members of the local media to be aware of what is going on and in turn explain events and developments to the public in order to avoid skewed information disseminated by some foreign journalists.

"I feel encouraged... one economics editor said shortly after the meeting, "I feel encouraged to participate constructively and do something about deficiencies in the economic debate," he added.

He echoed the view that if the "government-press-people" communication triangle had been stronger, confidence in the Jordanian media as well as that of the country as a whole, a senior editor said.

Without continuous feedback and interaction, the fresh turn in the Jordanian press could cause "disorientation" among members of the media who, having been used to rigid guidelines, now do not know what their limits are.

"An exchange of constructive criticism between the government and the local press is essential because we are just beginning to grope and grasp the meaning of this change," another editor said.

He added that with a flurry of diplomatic initiatives in the region, coupled with local economic hardships, the Jordanian media could very well rise to the occasion and serve as a forum for constructive and thought-provoking national debates between government officials and the public, thereby tackling national problems in a more effective manner.

"If they (journalists) rise to that challenge, it would signal a completely new chapter for journalism in Jordan, adding to their credibility as well as that of the country as a whole," a senior editor said.



## Jordan Times

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### A policy 'deja vu'

ISRAEL'S latest move to issue new identity cards to the Palestinians living under its occupation should serve as an additional eye-opener to all those Westerners who still look at the Jewish state with a pang of "guilt" over Nazi practices during World War II. Not that anyone needs any definite pointed reminders of the reenactment of Nazi actions by Israel in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, but, coming at a time when the Jewish state is sternly defending its oppressive measures as "self-defence" against a hostile people, the tell-tale signs speak volumes. If anything, the Jews, who describe themselves as "oppressed and hunted down for centuries in Europe," appear to be savouring a savage pleasure by subjecting the Palestinian people to the same kind of treatment that they were subjected to — a strong element in Israel's arguments for sympathy and support from Europe. The latest action is the issuance of computerised cards to the Palestinians so that they could be identified and singled out faster for purposes of detention, torture or whatever the Israelis have in mind for resistance activists; doesn't it remind us of a yellow card with a star of David?

If that was not enough, leaders of Jewish settlers, who thump their chests and recount their own experiences in Nazi hands while arguing why the international community should support Israeli claims in the Holy Land, are trying to implement their own versions of segregation starting with tags bearing "foreign worker" for Palestinians working in settlements. The move is stumped for the time being because of American objections.

Israel has also borrowed heavily from the apartheid policy of its mentor and friend South Africa (or is it the other way around?) for its own Arab population when it comes to civic services, budget allocations, property ownership and, above all, voting rights. So much for a "civilised, democratic Israel which takes pride from its values and people."

Obviously, these actions are aimed at ensuring "security" for the Israelis and go along the same lines as expulsion of Palestinians from the occupied territories. For all practical and technical purposes, the Israelis, who are definitely not naive, appear to be contented with the flimsiest excuse for their oppressive and humiliation tactics against the Palestinian people in Palestinian land since Israel, the "chrishted Jewish nation," is immune against any serious or meaningful condemnation from around the world — Europe and the U.S. in particular, not to speak of the United Nations Security Council, where the U.S. wields the mighty sword of veto.

One wonders how far the Israelis will go in emulating the Nazis and how long it will take before "concentration" camps will dot the Holy Land.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily Friday discussed a general strike staged by Palestinians in the occupied territories marking the anniversary of Israel's annexation of the Holy City of Jerusalem. The paper said that Israeli leaders' claim over the Arab city and their avowed determination to keep it under Israeli rule forever is countered by Arab and Palestinian resolve to liberate the city from occupation. Al Ra'i said a statement issued by Israeli army Chief of Staff Dan Shamron on the eve of the anniversary, urging Jewish settlers in the occupied Arab lands to play a key role in keeping the Holy City under Israeli rule and stifling the intifada. Such a statement was very serious and intended to escalate the repressive acts on the part of settlers against the Palestinian people. The paper said that the intifada was costing the Israelis dearly and would not doubt help Shamron's dreams and liberate the Holy City and Palestinian lands.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily commented Friday on Egyptian-Libyan rapprochement and said that Thursday's decision to open land and air corridors between the two countries constitutes a very constructive step towards bolstering Arab ranks. Mahmoud Rimawi said that the new development in Egyptian-Libyan ties, following 10 years of strained relations was a welcome move that should be emulated by other Arab states which are still at loggerheads over "superficial issues." The writer advocated the idea of involving the public in measures to end the remaining differences between neighbouring countries in the Arab World and noted that the Arab masses had no differences among them that could not be solved since they all have the same objectives and goals.

Al Dustour daily attacked Jewish settlers' criminal actions against the Palestinian population under Israeli rule. It said that the settlers have been carrying out provocative actions, assaulting Palestinians, damaging Arab property and destroying Arab farms. The paper noted that these actions, together with the repressive measures imposed on the Palestinians by the Israeli occupation authorities, were designed to evict the Palestinians from their homeland. The Arab countries have asked for an urgent meeting of the U.N. Security Council where the Palestine issue can be discussed again in light of these repressive measures, the paper said. But, it added, Israel seems to be relaxed and unperturbed about this complaint to the council as long as it continues to enjoy the backing of the United States which has always prevented any vote that would condemn Israel and its criminal and terrorist practices.

By Godfrey Jansen

NOW that the furor over Salman Rushdie's book has broadened into a veritable Kulturkampf, a civilisational confrontation between the West and North and the Islamic South and East, it can be seen that a great deal of the misunderstanding is due to the fact that Western Christianity and Islam are not really in the same universe of discourse, while it is generally but mistakenly assumed that they are. And there is this chronological disjunction, a lack of true synchrony between them, because as social phenomena they are of very different ages.

Because religions, as systems of faith dealing with the eternal verities, are all supposed to be *sub specie aeternitatis* they are also assumed to be of the same eternal age. Perhaps so, on the spiritual plane. But they also exist in a real world as living organisms and like all such organisms reli-

gions, especially the religions of the Book, have a span of life, a beginning, a middle and an end: youth, middle age, old age. It is generally known that Islam is in its 14th century but the consequences of that "age" in human terms for the individual believer are not worked out, especially not in comparison with the human experience of a person who is part of Christianity in its 20th century.

#### The vigour of Islam

The Rushdie controversy has made it imperative to understand that 20th century Christianity cannot be realistically compared with 20th century Islam (an "age" that Islam has not yet reached) and that the only true comparison, on the level of belief and observance is between present day Islam and perhaps 16th century Christianity. In the European Christian world that was an age of faith, of spiritual vigour

and likewise of intolerance and persecution. It is deeply ironic that what Rushdie has done is to repeat 14th century Christian slanders against Islam and the Prophet.

Islam is in its vigorous middle age while Christianity is in its quiescent old age. After all, Western historians and sociologists routinely refer to Western civilisation as being in its "post-Christian" phase. In fact, Islam is not only vigorous, it is still growing, as can be judged from the increasing number of converts and not only in Africa but in the Christian West itself, and the ever increasing number of believers who make the annual hajj pilgrimage to Mecca, now numbering over two million. It is Christian commentators themselves who bemoan the low level of spiritual vigour in the Church today, the falling away of congregations, the fading interest of the younger generations, the de-

cline in the number of the clergy.

What does this difference in spiritual vitality mean in the Rushdie context? This — that if a middle aged man is slapped across the face his reaction will be very different and much more active than the reaction of a slapped 70-year old: that would be only natural. This is why Muslims of my acquaintance are intensely irritated by the condescending attitude of Western commentators, especially the *literati*, who describe the Muslim reaction as "medieval", which has become a pejorative word. Christianity, they say, grew up and grew away from its medieval intolerance and Islam — especially the Muslim communities living in Western societies — must do the same.

Islam and the communities have no intention of doing anything of the sort: they hope they never follow the West into a wishy-washy liberalism born of

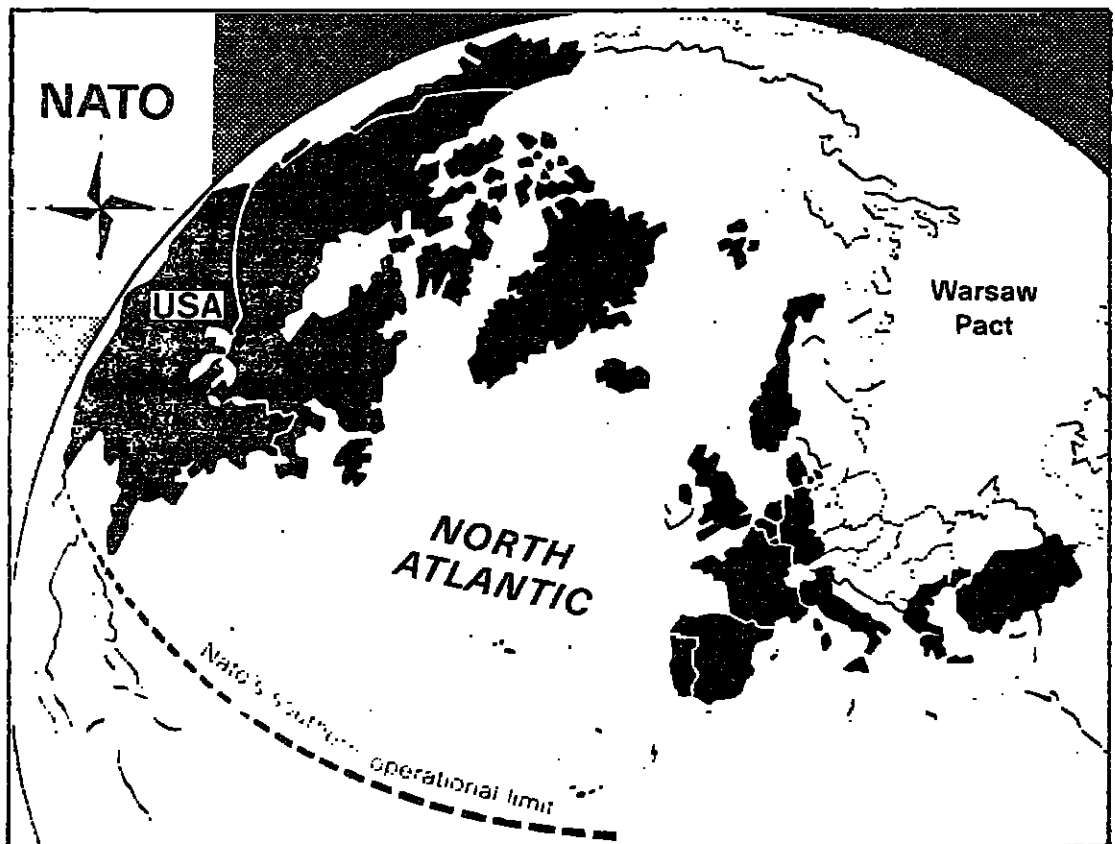
lack of faith and agnostic indifference. Here, in fact, and on a massive scale, we have the problem of the generation gap. The big difference between the angry worldwide Muslim reaction to Rushdie and the tepid disapproval by many Christians of the much less offensive film *The Last Temptation of Christ*, is a clear measure of the gap in the life cycle of the two faiths.

#### Why Muslims feel so hurt

This is not to say that youthful spiritual vigour excuses or justifies acts of violence alleged to be in defence of the faith. Nothing excuses Ayatollah Khomeini's death sentence on Rushdie, and the overwhelming majority of Muslims have said so. But on the other hand, by not appreciating Islam's spiritual vigour, Westerners do not seem to understand the reason why Muslims feel so hurt and so deeply wounded by

what Rushdie wrote. The lack of Western empathy is betrayed by the fact that Western commentators do not even correct his "blasphemy" and "heresy". Muslims make the point that he has been guilty of something far more dreadful — of apostasy, the profanation and denial of the faith. But when a person does not have a faith in the first place, denial of faith is, for him, a meaningless thing.

So the real problem, for instance, Britain and France with their large Muslim communities, is not of two religions, as such, finding a way to co-exist, but of two religions with very different levels of spiritual vitality, not in the same universe of discourse, in belief, living side by side. A devout Muslim has no problem living alongside spiritually flaccid Christians, if no Rushdie comes along; it is much more difficult the other way around. — Middle East International, London



### NATO entered summit divided, comes out with compromise

By Patrick Worsnip  
Reuter

BRUSSELS — NATO entered its 40th anniversary summit this week badly divided over nuclear policy, under pressure from a Soviet disarmament drive, and uncertain about the leadership qualities of U.S. President George Bush.

Somewhat to its own surprise, the Western military alliance emerged Tuesday with a dramatic new troop-cut proposal promoted by Bush, a detailed arms control strategy and a compromise on tactical nuclear missiles (SNF). NATO diplomats were relieved as the two-day summit broke up in relative harmony. "Two days ago I was betting on no agreement on short-range forces and no comprehensive concept," one said, referring to a 17-page treatise the alliance issued to lay out its policy towards the Eastern bloc.

As the leaders of NATO's 16 states headed home, the chief outcome appeared to be the marking out of a clear path for the future that would include negotiations with the East on both conventional and nuclear arms.

But it was evident that the deal patched up on SNF had been bought with major compromises, mainly by Britain and the United States, and had not truly bridged a wide gap between them and West Germany on the future of nuclear deterrence.

Washington and London had already given up hope, in the face of stiff opposition from Bonn, of deciding at the summit to modernise NATO's SNF arsenal, consisting of 88 Lance missile launchers ranged against some 1,450 similar Soviet systems.

That decision has now been postponed until 1992. This week they also agreed that negotiations with Moscow to reduce SNF could take place once the current Vienna negotiations on East-West conventional force cuts had reached agreement, although no missiles would go until those cuts were completed.

This did not fully meet Bonn's demand that the talks should open as soon as possible to get rid of a class of weapon it sees as threatening mainly German territory.

But West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher was still able to say: "This brings NATO from an obligation to modernise without negotiating to an obligation to negotiate without modernising."

The United States and Britain, which until recently had argued that to begin talks at all would lead inevitably down a slippery slope of total SNF abolition, suddenly began to stress that the new

NATO line allowed only for partial reductions.

"Now we have at least got one foot nailed to a particular bit of the floor and that bit of the floor says 'no zero'," one British official explained.

The Americans and British also underlined that the documents issued on Tuesday repeatedly said that some short-range missiles would be needed "for the foreseeable future," thus ruling out their complete elimination.

"Just look what they've signed up to," British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said of the West Germans. Bush said: "Partial is partial and to try to interpret it some other way misses the boat."

But West German officials said the summit texts did not exclude total abolition in the long run, and Italian Prime Minister Ciriaco de Mita took a similar view.

NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner, a former West German defence minister, declined to elaborate on the NATO statements.

Most delegations agreed that Bush's conventional arms proposal — providing for big troop and aircraft cuts in Europe and a

target period of six to twelve months to wrap up the Vienna talks — had eased the SNF dispute considerably.

It had enabled NATO to show that it was responding in kind to a stream of arms control offers from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, and allowed West Germany to tell its pro-disarmament public that the alliance had a plan ready.

"What Genscher set himself as a target was an arms control perspective," a British official said. "He has secured that."

The new U.S. president was also to show that, having put U.S.-Soviet relations on hold for four months while he reviewed foreign and defence policy, he was now ready to pick up the detente-baton of his predecessor Ronald Reagan.

Allied leaders praised Bush's performance at the summit, but Thatcher, in a rare note of discord, indicated she thought his aim of ending the Vienna force cut talks in six or 12 months was unrealistic.

"I think that's a little bit optimistic. I think it's very optimistic," she told a news conference.

### S. African black leaders cool to reform plan

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa's best known black leaders continue to reject negotiations with the white-led government, despite its new plan to introduce further limited reforms of apartheid.

Some conservative black leaders met a senior cabinet minister earlier this month to discuss limited power-sharing for all races. But political figures of the status of Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi are adamant that any meaningful negotiations must focus on scrapping the myriad apartheid race segregation laws on the statute books. On May 9, Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis met black leaders representing the National Forum, a new black organisation created by the government, comprised mainly of councillors and former officials from the segregated black townships. They endorsed what they called evolutionary reform in South Africa.

The National Forum currently has members from 203 townships who have met for talks twice this year.

Since the May meeting Heunis has resigned from his post as minister responsible for initiating the negotiations, but the government is going ahead with its plans while continuing to reject black majority rule.

Blacks, who form 75 per cent of the population, at present have no vote or representation in central government, which is dominated by the white minority.

After the National Forum first met in January, Heunis made a statement which political analysts said was intended to encourage leaders like Tutu and Buthelezi to participate.

"South African black leaders should set aside their preconditions and come to the negotiating table now while there is still a majority of whites who want to talk to them," he said.

Those attending the May meeting, however, effectively represented the same constituencies which had previously shown interest — black township officials and leaders of the tribal black homelands Pretoria created under apartheid.

The major figures in black poli-

tics — those not in jail, heavily restricted or living in exile — still refuse to talk with the government until it frees political prisoners and lifts bans on black organisations.

Soweto township anti-apartheid activist Nthato Motlana believes the government plan will fail unless it involves jailed African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela and the ANC in any constitutional talks.

"We know that the government is trying to seduce and co-opt credible black leaders to come to the negotiating table. And they know perfectly well that they can't succeed without them," Motlana said.

"Unless credible black leaders are involved in any negotiation, there will be no political solution," Motlana said.

"The government is painfully aware that the homeland leaders and councillors they are so assiduously trying to promote are men of straw, representing no-one," he told Reuters.

Alex Boraine, director of the privately funded Institute for a Democratic Alternative in South Africa, told reporters last month:

"In the end you have to negotiate with people who have a mandate, who have the necessary support to make a bargain stick. It is impossible to deal the ANC out."

Critics of the National Forum say its members are not representative of their black communities.

In municipal elections for black town councils last year, only about 17 per cent of eligible voters turned out, according to independent monitoring groups. In Soweto, the biggest township, 10 per cent voted.

Because the government has outlawed the ANC and severely restricted major black opposition organisations, including the United Democratic Front (UDF) which has millions of supporters, it is hard to assess their exact following.

"I am a leader by default because of the vacuum caused by the detention, imprisonment and banning of real leaders," said Tutu.

But Tutu and UDF officials clearly attract widespread sup-

port nationwide.

By contrast, many township councillors were forced to live behind barred wire during riots in 1985 and 1986 because of their unpopularity. Most are still protected in guarded compounds.

Mandela, Buthelezi and other major leaders reject any future arrangements short of black majority rule, although they are in some cases bitterly divided amongst themselves.

Like the government, Buthelezi favours a capitalist system in future, while many ANC supporters back socialism.

Buthelezi and the leftist black opposition are united, however, in rejecting those who sit down now with the government.

Buthelezi dismissed the National Forum in a mid-May press interview: "It must be borne in mind that you will be irrelevant in the end whether you do the right thing or the wrong thing, if you are not backed by the people."

Black council officials who are talking to the government agree that they are seizing a chance to battle for black rights.

"We are taking advantage of government structures and turning them around for the benefit of the masses," said John Gogotja, president of the Federal Independence Democratic Alliance, which represents several town councils.

But Tom Boya, a former township mayor persistently wooed by the government, told Reuters: "If the government think they will create their own leaders, they will find a lot of fools to climb on their bandwagon."

"But black people know who their leaders are," said Boya, head of the United Municipalities of South Africa, a grouping of members of government-organised local authorities. Pretoria has tried before to co-opt black bodies in implementing its race-based policies but these have failed to achieve a popular base.

In the 1950s it created advisory boards. It formed the black so-called "homelands" in the 1960s and set up black urban local authorities of the 1980s.

"The present forum is bound for the dustbin, just like the others," Motlana said.

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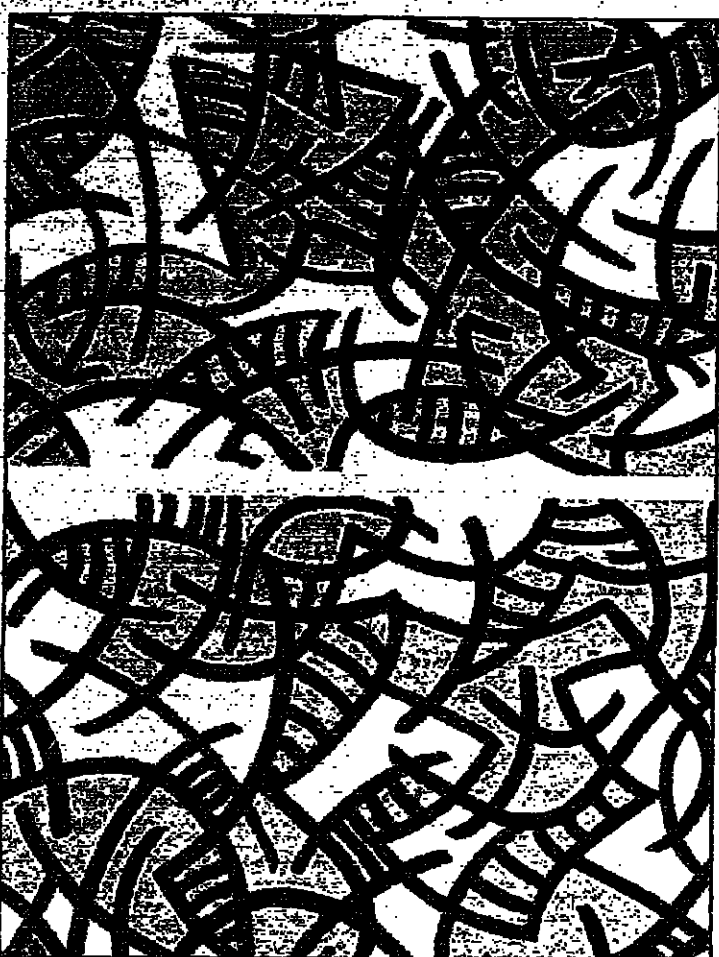
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Samurai

## Colours and moods

By Nelly Lama

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Dodi Tabba is a popular name among artists in Jordan. She was, formerly, a graphic designer in ALIA design department and the person in charge of their art gallery. She later helped establish the Petra Bank Gallery in Wadi Saqra. Now a mother of two, Dodi has taken up painting. After her first painting exhibition which was held at the Intercontinental Hotel in 1982, and just like a modest person who genuinely wishes to advance, she showed her dissatisfaction with her work and wanted to be more serious, more mature and so, she worked on. After her marriage to sculptor Samer Tabba, she visited New York with him and he explained to her the essence of Avant-Garde art stressing the secondary role of meaning (lyricism) and the major role of aesthetics in what is called Fine Arts. This does not mean that Dodi has not had her share of education. For she holds a degree in commercial art and graphic design as well as textile design from the Punjab University and another from the Ruskin School of Art in Oxford. She has had proper experience in advertising and in book illustration, she even worked as a media consultant for UNESCO, which included art projects and workshops for semi-literate women.

### Art Review

Dodi thrives on acrylic paints "because I like bold colours not wispy watercolours," she explains.

At home, where Dodi works, one can see Samer's sculptures seem to be making a statement. "Yes," she agrees, "his works, standing all around me, influence me whether I choose to or not. I do like him to study my work and criticise it as his standard is very high."

Dodi's paintings are predominantly non-objective abstractions although in a few she uses stylised human figures. Her sense of design always dominates. "I've always wanted to be a modern abstract artist and get away from the influence of textile design," she says. However, when she was advised not to depart from her own identifiable style and lose herself in her husband's "purism," she insisted that she will always have her identity since she likes bold colours and delicate lines.

That is, indeed, what her paintings are based upon. They are studies of thick and thin lines, of directional thrusts, an interplay of pastel, shocking and muted colour rendered in acrylics, often mixed with gouache, tempera, china ink or coloured pencils, worked on the gray side of box-board paper. As this unglazed texture sucks the colour allowing a thick rendering. Her coloured shapes seem to disperse all over the format in a balanced but floating manner.

"Mammoth I, II, III, are painted with premonitory lines and shapes that remind us of the spontaneity of the cave painters of prehistory. Lines converge, float or wriggle out leaving empty spaces between them, enhancing the motion and the feeling of floating prevalent in these paintings."

Other works thrive on symbols, arrows and grids reminding us of aerial photography of landscape just like Cornille's paintings (Cobra group). Here the subtle

pastel pink, green and gray feel very 'volatile' and floating within the empty moats that separate them from the black lines. These wavy black lines seem to give a constant thrust outwards creating outgoing movement which is balanced by groups of parallel lines that enter the format assuredly. "The Blue Wall" has some realistic, stylised figuration that gives the impression of stained glass rendering. The outlining of shapes goes in double lines. The subject matter is, for once, objec-

"Her sense of design always dominates." "I've always wanted to be a modern abstract artist and get away from the influence of textile design," she says. However, when she was advised not to depart from her own identifiable style and lose herself in her husband's "purism," she insisted that she will always have her identity since she likes bold colours and delicate lines."

diver: a still life, with two vases filled with plants, a bottle and oranges in a dish, stands in front of a female figure who, in turn, stands in front of a caerulean blue wall, Dodi's favourite colour. It is a well-balanced work with good colour harmony.

"The infinite passage" conveys a more spiritual mood. Various coloured pencils are used in unison to give a soft texture. Here again, the empty space between the containing lines and the coloured shapes gives a sense of floating to the painting.

"Samurai I, II, give a more solemn tone. Strong, thick curved lines criss-cross, often framing a flat brown area, or enclosing a rhythmic striped area.

A few smaller paintings have stylised figures frolicking and coming forward in curvilinear lines or otherwise constricted by their own square forms or the barring line that keeps reappearing in front of them. It has a folk character, and it conveys a feeling of melancholy conveyed mostly by its pastel colour scheme.

Other small paintings such as "Eurythmics" follow the stained glass method but the lines are thin, drawn with a rapidograph. Repetitious rhythms, alternating ones, alternating and overlapping limbs of stylised figures, faces and animal figures (birds and fish) form a symphony on the format. The composition, in spite of all this action, is open (atectonic), loose, floating and light, because of both the technique and the rendering of very light pastel colours forming large open spaces in the central strip. A smaller, more solid rhythm is maintained in "Graduation" where a group of girls stand in double file under a garland of flags. In spite of its rhythms, this work is far more static than the black ink compositions that are done in the same method but seem to be very movement because of the strength that the black shapes give to the curvilinear thick lines. Dots enhance that even further creating minor rhythms and clear modulated forms.

We can genuinely say that the vivacity of these works and their light colour harmonies are in line with the artist's own temperament. They are proofs that she has made a giant leap forward since her last exhibition in the Petra Gallery two years ago.

Her exhibition will be held at the Petra Gallery from June 3rd to 13th.

## Kiss me Kate: Batrouny's farewell to Jordan

By Hind-Lara Mango  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Currently showing at the Royal Cultural Centre is Cole Porter's "Kiss me Kate." The music and lyrics for the play were composed by Cole Porter, while the actual script is written by Sam and Bella Spewack.

The play deals with a group of travelling actors who are performing Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew" in Baltimore. What makes the play different from others is that it is "a play within a play." This Shakespearean device of a play within a play is found in the play Katherine, the Shrew and Petruchio's story as well as in Porter's off-stage production "Kiss me Kate."

The story is about the stormy relationship between Miss Vanessa acting the part of the Shrew, and her ex-husband, Fredrick Graham who is Petruchio and the director of "The Taming of the Shrew." Kay Mukhar and Jim Clark undertake these two roles.

So the relationship with its electric discharges is found both on and off-stage. For Miss Vanessa is a successful actress who will go to any extent to maintain that success even if it means stepping on other people. Her ex-husband is struggling to be just as successful, and like her, he is very proud and strong-willed. Consequently, these two characters constantly quarrel.

The actors act out their parts very realistically; they got so carried away with the fighting scenes that Kay Mukhar got a broken rib during one rehearsal.

There definitely is a romantic touch to the play since it is very obvious that the divorced couple still care for each other. Thus, the play is a flux between storm and calm. Both Mukhar and Clark portray their characters like thunder clouds surrounding other characters, and emit a lot of the explosions with which the play is filled. "I find it easier to be the fighting Katherine than the docile one she becomes at the end," says Mukhar.

Bianca, the Shrew's sister, acted out by Lexy Haddadin, is also having an off-stage relationship. Through her interaction with the other characters, she shows herself to be a dumb blond stereo-type; she has the looks and the voice, but lacks the ability to act. She is Lois who is having a love affair with the gambler Bill Calhoun, acted by Peter Rose. The latter also acts out the role of Lucentio who is trying to woo Bianca in Shakespeare's sub-plot.

In the off-stage play, Calhoun is a no-good selfish trickster who enjoys the company of beautiful women. He will go to any length to save his own neck even if it means forging his name on a gambling debt, and putting Graham's name on it instead. This action generates many other comic incidents. For two gangsters (acted by Paul La Plant and Richard Hillebrand) threaten Graham because of the debt they think he owes them.

Also adding a comic element to the play are the myriad innuendoes used by Katherine-Miss Vanessa. What she says as the Shrew is wittily co-ordinated to coincide with her feelings as Miss Vanessa, so that when she shouts at Petruchio she is really shouting at her ex-husband. For example, when she finds out that the flowers that he sends her are really meant to be sent to Lois, her fury knows no bounds. The words she spits at him as the Shrew mirror her inner fury as Miss Vanessa.



Petruchio (Jim Clark) and Lucentio (Peter Rose) in a scene from "The Taming of the Shrew"

Another comic aspect in "Kiss me Kate" is the "un fil rouge" (red thread) technique: a character enters a scene during a highly dramatic moment. These moments are repetitive and serve to lighten up the atmosphere.

"Kiss me Kate" is very much about the lives of theatre people and how sometimes their relationships are reflected in the roles they are acting.

Other characters include the Shrew's father, Baptista, acted by Tony Wood. The rich, seedy, old jet-setter Harrison Howell whom Miss Vanessa is infatuated with. David Thompson disguises this character in a rather clever way. Paula (Sandy Rose) is the dresser who helps everyone in their various predicaments. She truly emits the atmosphere of the forties through her costume, accent, and endless chewing of bubble gum. The part of the stage manager, Hatty, is rendered by Gaynor Pendakis, and the suitors by Jean Philippe Amour and Olivier Roche.

A lot of the 1940s music is heard during the performance. Peter Ashton, music director, along with fifteen other musicians forms the play's orchestra. The play is also accompanied by tape recordings of various sounds.

Because this is an old musical, a lot of scene changes take place. To prevent any resulting confusion, music and dialogue are manoeuvred in such a way that the actors come on stage singing or speaking while the set is being changed in front of the audience. This transaction is done smoothly.

The set is designed by Nawal Abdullah Kattan. It is done simply without frills. The Shakespearean play is accompanied by a castle-like structure embodying three builds of Verona. The off-stage scenes are always in the dressing room. Miss Vanessa's success is apparent from her lavishly decorated room, whilst Graham's room is rather stark.

"Kiss me Kate" has been set up in a relatively short time. Mukhar says "when you are under pressure, you do your ultimate best. It was hard memorising the Shakespearean lines since an actor cannot develop them as is the case with other lines. This production has really been a group effort, each actor has been encouraging the other, giving his ideas, we have really come together as a team more than in any other production."

Vannessa Batrouni directed what is to be her last play in Jordan. She has worked with the Royal Theatre Company ever since it was established. Her productions have revolved mainly on musicals such as "Annie" and "Oliver Twist." She has written a musical about the Bronte sisters which was recently staged at the University of Oxford. She now hopes to re-write it and stage it in different parts of England.

She feels that Jordan would benefit from a National Youth Theatre. "There is enough enthusiasm among the young generation here. They show a lot of potential, but it is not taken advantage of. There are also a lot of social and economic obstacles for local students. We had hoped to develop a more professional company, but it is economically impossible. Television draws all the actors away because the money is there," says Batrouny.

She went on to say that she has been lucky to work in Jordan. It gave her opportunity which she never would have had in England and that is continuously staging

shows. The theatre at the Royal Cultural Centre is well equipped even by international standards and the space is ideal to work in. "It has been interesting working with Jordanian artists such as

Nawal Kattan, and costume designer, Ikbal Taneer. Mukhar says that Batrouny's departure is a great loss. "We learned a lot from her, she left her mark! We will carry on and

improve by branching out and concentrating on more serious dramas. Musicals have put limitations on people, they could not join because they could not sing." All proceeds of this perform-

ance will be used in aid of the Holy Land Institution for the Deaf in Salt. Tickets are for JD 3 and are sold at the Royal Cultural Centre, performances continue until June 5.



Katherine (Kay Mukhar) and Petruchio (Jim Clark) during a moment of love

Photos by Othman Hakuz

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# OPEC talks open with uphill task ahead

VIENNA (Agencies) — Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries ministers met Friday to take a close look at the surprisingly robust oil market and begin plotting strategy for the rest of the year.

"We're going to talk about everything," said Rilwanu Lukman, the Nigerian oil minister who is president of the OPEC. However, rivalries within OPEC hit the talks before they had formally begun Friday, casting doubt on whether its 13 members could agree on output quotas and keep prices at recent high levels.

Most of the OPEC oil ministers haggled in small groups, postponing by at least two hours their first formal meeting at the Vienna talks.

They began their meeting after a late lunch and morning bargaining sessions. The minister from Qatar is due Sunday.

Libyan Oil Minister Fawzi Shakshouki said he wanted to sidestep rival demands to sell more oil by extending to year-end an accord, expiring June 30, which has helped drive prices up by about 50 per cent this year.

It sets a notional ceiling on overall supply by OPEC of 18.5 million barrels daily and a target of \$18 for the average barrel of OPEC crude — slightly above present prices.

But according to Lukman, a roll-over deal "would be the easy way out, and it is not as easy as that."

He should know — riots have erupted in his native Nigeria this week in protest against economic austerity measures there.

Other states anxious for more revenue include Venezuela, which faced similar riots earlier this year, and Iraq and Iran, which need money to rebuild after their Gulf war.

OPEC's problem, delegates said, was that two of the richest members, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, were chasing the lion's share of any modest rise in the group's overall ceiling. In advance of Friday's gathering, several ministers have floated new ideas for drawing up an accord that will guide their pricing and production policies in the last half of the year.

But few were willing to discuss them in detail.

"I think it's premature to talk about anything now," said Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Hisham Nazer.

Diego Tamariz, Ecuador's oil minister, said, "The main objective of the meeting is to have stability."

Evenness in the market, he said, "will be brought by production levels in accordance with demand."

Analysts predicted the ministers' discussions, expected to last about a week, would be marked by tough bargaining.

"They will come to an agreement in the end," said Pierre Terzian, editor of the Paris-based oil publication, *Petrostrategies*. "But it will be rather difficult."

Before the talks began, several oil ministers suggested changes in the current output agreement that might anger others.

Nazer, when he arrived Thursday, confirmed reports that he intended to suggest scrapping the

OPEC's benchmark price of \$18 a barrel.

"We are proposing the elimination of the \$18-a-barrel target price and withdraw our proposal for the establishment of a \$15-a-barrel minimum," he told reporters.

Nazer declined to elaborate, further.

The Saudis reportedly have wanted to revive a plan unveiled late last year that would set a price floor at \$15 a barrel.

The current production accord, spanning the first six months of the year, sets an output ceiling of 18.5 million barrels a day for the producer states. Its price target is \$18 a barrel. A barrel holds 42 gallons (160 liters) of oil.

The agreement was worked out last November in an effort to reduce OPEC's overproduction and raise crude prices.

Prices have surged this year, a gain attributed not only to the OPEC output cuts but also accidents in oil-producing areas. They have combined to reduce the supply of oil to the world market, although analysts have reported in recent weeks a pickup in OPEC output.

GATT rules also call for the country found in violation to offer compensation to the country whose exports have been restricted. Compensation usually takes the form of a reduced tariff in the country found at fault on other goods of the complaining country, or some measure that also increases the complaining country's exports.

"The amount of compensation asked for sugar could be high, because the restrictions have been going on so long," Hammer said.

## Panel finds U.S. violation of trade rules

WASHINGTON (AP) — An international panel has backed an Australian charge that the United States violated trading rules by limiting its imports of sugar, the office of U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills said Thursday.

Last week, Hills cited Japan, Brazil and India as unreasonably limiting exports from the United States. She acted under a new U.S. trade law, with the approval of President George Bush.

Christina McCowan, a press officer, said the ruling on sugar was to come up at a meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, June 21. The scene will be a meeting of the council of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

GATT permits restrictions on imports only if the importing country restricts its own production in the same proportion. It is considered unfair for a country to limit imports just to protect its own industry of farmers.

"We've been increasing our production while cutting our imports," said Tom Hammer, president of the U.S. sweetener users association.

American users of sweeteners and sugar exporters in other countries say the price of sugar in

the United States is kept unreasonably high by government action to protect a small number of U.S. farmers. The U.S. government last year raised its price to 23 cents a pound (about 50 cents a kilogram). Raw cane sugar is now selling at about 11 cents a pound (24 cents a kilo) on the world market.

Hammer said U.S. imports of sugar have been reduced from \$1.1 billion in 1982 to about \$400 million last year. Quotas specifying how much sugar may be sold in this country are distributed among 38 countries, including Australia.

Canada, Argentina and the 12

countries of the European Community joined Australia in filing a complaint last year. The panel that ruled against the United States consisted of Poland, Uruguay and Hong Kong.

Under GATT rule, the United States or any of the other 96 member governments in the organisation could block acceptance of the sugar panel's ruling. In recent years, however, the United States and Japan have accepted some adverse rulings.

In two other pending cases the U.S. administration has accepted an adverse ruling but no change has been made in the U.S. practices complained of, because Congress had not acted to change the law.

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"The amount of compensation asked for sugar could be high, because the restrictions have been going on so long," Hammer said.

Ministers were also divided over how to tackle the strength of the dollar, whose rise threatens to worsen the U.S. trade deficit and has exposed the fragility of international coordination on currencies and interest rates.

The OECD meeting urged Washington to cut its budget deficit but Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady said the United States would not act in a vacuum and that Bonn and Tokyo should take care not to throttle their own growth by raising their interest rates.

The meeting also launched the OECD firmly into a crusade to preserve the world's environment.

The organisation was charged with studying how environmental policies could be best reconciled with the need to maintain economic growth in rich and poor countries alike.

## U.S. weathers OECD trade storm

PARIS (R) — The United States has weathered a trade quarrel with its major trading partners during two days of talks in Paris.

But economy ministers of the 24-nation Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) made it clear that they believed free trade was being undermined by recent U.S. moves to single out Japan, Brazil

and India as unfair traders.

A tough "Super 301" clause of the 1988 U.S. Trade Act calls for the United States to enter direct negotiations with offending trade partners. If talks fail, U.S. sanctions may be imposed under the terms of the legislation.

Australian Treasurer Paul Keating said countries had been almost unanimous in expressing their concern over the law at the OECD annual meeting.

British Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson said: "No country should attempt to rewrite for its own benefit the multilateral rules."

U.S. officials denied they were putting international trade at risk.

"No country could be more devoted to multilateralism than the United States," U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills said.

She argued that "Super 301" was designed to open markets to all exporting nations. Australia and Italy had already benefitted from the tough White House stance that had priced open-

Japanese beef and citrus fruit markets, she said.

The Americans and Japanese thrashed out their differences for the first time in Paris but their talks were curtailed when Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno was summoned back to Tokyo after being chosen as the prime minister.

He succeeds Noboru Takeshita, who resigned over the Recruit bribery scandal.

The final communiqué of the OECD annual meeting implicitly criticised U.S. trading policy but the U.S. delegation succeeded in watering down tougher wording sought by Japan and the European Community.

The coded language of the communiqué said: "Ministers firmly reject the tendency towards unilateralism, bilateralism, sectoralism, and managed trade which threatens the multilateral system."

The trade row overshadowed the wider discussions over which economic policies should be pursued by industrialised countries in the 1990s.

The fight against inflation headed a list of urgent objectives, but some ministers complained that excessive use was being made of interest rates to rein in price increases.

### ECONOMIC NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Bahrain boosts stake in aluminium plant

BAHRAIN (R) — Bahrain will buy the 17 per cent stake in its aluminium smelter owned by U.S. firm Kaisertech Ltd Klu in a deal worth between \$70 million and \$75 million, officials said. They said a preliminary agreement had been signed and the sale, which will boost Bahrain's stake in the plant to 74.9 per cent, would be financed by the government. There were no details. Other shareholders in Aluminium Bahrain Bsc (ALBA) are the Saudi Arabian public investment fund with 20 per cent and West Germany's Breton Investments fund with 5.1 per cent. Last month, industry sources said Bahrain had given the go-ahead for \$1 billion expansion of the smelter to double capacity to 400,000 tonnes a year. The expansion will be in addition to a current \$130 million modernisation programme designed to boost capacity to 205,000 tonnes a year from the current 170,000 tonnes.

#### Bush approves funds for satellites

LONDON (AP) — President George Bush announced Thursday he had approved funding for continued operations of two existing landsat satellites and for the completion and launch of a third. The landsat satellites beam images that have been used since 1972 to evaluate earth resources and soil moisture and to search for oil and other minerals. The announcement was made by the travelling White House while Bush was at dinner with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at the end of a four-country trip to Europe. The president's action saves the satellites from extinction. They had been turned over to private industry in 1985, but the company formed to sell the images was unable to make the venture pay even with government help. Spot, a French satellite, is capable of taking even better images than landsat and has captured much of the market for remote sensing. The Commerce Department announced earlier this year that it had no funds to continue operating the satellite and planned to shut them down. Vice-President Dan Quayle, head of the National Space Council, stepped in and urged Bush to find money to give the satellites a new lease on life.

#### Churchmen ask banks for tough debt deal

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Four South African church leaders Thursday called on international banks to demand political reform before agreeing to reschedule the country's \$21 billion foreign debt. The churchmen, who include Nobel Peace Prize winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu, said in a letter to the foreign banks that they should link proposed rescheduling to social and political changes in the white-ruled republic rather than to financial criteria alone. "Without such linkage, rescheduling will amount to an extension of time and credit for the apartheid regime to continue brutalising the oppressed majority in South Africa," the church leaders said. The other signatories are Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) and former SACC General Secretary Beyers Naude. The churchmen expressed concern that foreign banks had shown themselves increasingly willing to reschedule short-term debt into long-term loans, thus easing the immediate burden on the beleaguered economy. "Effective pressure on the South African government could facilitate a climate conducive to meaningful negotiations in South Africa," the letter added. Reserve bank officials said last month foreign banks had converted about \$2 billion of short-term debt into long-term loans.

## Jordan asks Paris Club for rescheduling debts

By Rana Sabbagh  
Reuters

AMMAN — Jordan has asked the Paris Club of creditor nations to reschedule its government-guaranteed debts.

Shakour Shaalan, director of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Middle East Department, told Reuters Thursday talks between Jordan and the Paris-based club of major Western country creditors would start in mid-July.

He said contacts were also underway to reschedule part of Jordan's commercial loans through the London Club, a group of major banks who have given credits to Jordan.

Jordan has a foreign debt of \$8.1 billion. Payments of \$1 billion are due this year but the

repayments burden will ease slightly in 1990, officials say. Shaalan said the IMF management approved a letter of intent on Jordan's five-year economic reforms plan in early May and the fund's executive board was likely to approve it by the end of June or early in July.

"In the meantime, Amman has approached the Paris Club and their talks are slated for July 17," soon after the IMF board endorses the letter of intent, he said.

Shaalan said the fund was satisfied with the way Jordan was managing its economic problems. "We are very happy with the way Jordan is acting. Otherwise our management would not have approved the letter of intent," and passed it on for further approval.

## Jordan, Egypt to discuss joint projects next week

CAIRO (Petra) — Egyptian Minister of Economic Cooperation Maurice Makramallah is due in Amman next week to take part in the general assembly meeting of the Jordanian-Egyptian Joint Holding Company. Makramallah said the meeting would discuss

feasibility studies projects to be carried out by the company, which was set up last year by the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee. The meeting will review scopes of cooperation in joint ventures to be carried out under the holding company.

## Jordan-Tunis panel issues recommendations

TUNIS (Petra) — A Joint Jordanian-Tunisian trade and industrial committee concluded meetings here Thursday and recommended a set of measures to help promote trade ties between the two countries.

According to a spokesman for the Jordanian side at the meeting, the committee recommended that the two countries conclude a barter agreement to facilitate the trading of national products, that trade fairs organised by either country in the other should continue, that fair products worth JD

150,000 up from JD 75,000 be exempted from customs duty and that the two sides should exchange lists of products intended to be sold through the trade fairs.

The committee meetings were held as reports spoke of record sales being made at the fourth Jordanian industrial fair which opened in Tunis eight days ago. A spokesman for the fair's organisers said products were sold for \$1.5 million in the first five days of the 10-day fair which can sell up to \$42.5 million worth of products directly to the public. A total of 80 Jordanian firms are taking part in the fair.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, June 1, 1989  
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	84.0	84.8
U.S. dollar	566.4	572.4	Japanese yen (for 100)	396.7	400.7
Pound Sterling	887.8	896.7	Dutch guilder	233.0	235.5
Deutschemark	285.0	287.9	Swedish crown	84.7	85.5
Swiss franc	330.1	333.4	Italian lira (for 100)	39.4	39.8
			Belgian franc (for 100)	136.1	137.5

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.5840/50	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2025/35	Canadian dollar
	1.9700/07	Deutschemark
	2.2200/10	Dutch guilders
	1.6975/85	Swiss francs
	41.24/28	Belgian francs
	6.6830/80	French francs
	1428/1429	Italian lire
	141.90/142.00	Japanese yen
	6.6400/50	Swedish crowns
	7.1325/75	Norwegian crowns
	7.6700/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	362.60/363.10	U.S. dollars

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WASHINGTON (AP) — Representatives of the 151 governments of the World Bank will make about \$10 billion available over the next three years to help reduce Third World debt, bank spokesman Frank Vogl said Thursday.

"Amounts for particular countries haven't been worked out yet because our board is going to consider three-year programmes for the first time," he added.

The World Bank issued a statement quoting its president, Barber Conable, as saying the member countries were in "broad agreement" on the percentages of its loans that could be set aside for debt relief.

Each case will be handled separately, Conable said. He added that the set-aside to be used for reducing payments on old debts would be about 25 per cent of "adjustment lending."

"Adjustment lending" is the kind of lending which requires the borrowing government to make promises about undertaking new economic policies such as reducing government expenditures.

Conable added that four countries where the bank is concentrating on its traditional loans for specific projects, such as roads and schools, the figure to be set aside for reducing old loan payments would be 10 per cent of the total lending.

The directors agreed that in some cases another 15 per cent of the World Bank's lending might be made available to reduce a country's debt and payments.

Third World debt totals about \$1.2 trillion, about 60 per cent owed to commercial banks, and the rest to governments and international agencies like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

A similar policy of set-asides was announced last week by the fund, the bank's sister organization.

The World Bank approved over \$19 billion in loans last year. Vogl said the 22 members of the board of executive directors would soon be considering a one-year package of loans to Mexico amounting to \$1.5 billion.

Under the guidelines announced Thursday after more than two days of closed-door board meetings, 25 per cent of that — \$375 million — will be available for reduction of Mexico's existing debt of \$19.5 billion.

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AL BARQ SUPERMARKET



## European ministers talk drugs, apartheid

REYKJAVIK, Iceland (AP) — Scandinavian sports ministers called Thursday for tightening the crackdown on sporting links with South Africa and said countries should discuss how to deal with corporations that sponsor sports events in that country.

The ministers were expected to vote later Thursday on a resolution condemning countries that still have sports exchanges with South Africa — primarily West Germany, Britain and France among the Western European nations.

The sports ministers also were set to vote on tough new anti-doping legislation that would facilitate year-round testing of athletes and would punish doctors and coaches who provide banned substances to those athletes.

Swedish sports minister Ulf Lonnqvist said it is time for nations to stop merely condemning apartheid, the South African system of racial segregation, and to take concrete steps to block sporting links with the country.

"All the countries present at this ministerial meeting have committed ourselves politically

and morally against apartheid in sports," Lonnqvist said.

"But this political commitment has not been transformed into action. Still, most of the international sports contacts of South Africa take place with our part of the world."

Lonnqvist said each nation should consider the role of sponsors in supporting South African sports events such as golf or tennis tournament.

The Swedish sports minister said "sport is granted high priority in political terms" in South Africa and claimed sponsors help support the system.

Nations such as Ireland and Britain said they condemn apartheid, but pointed out they cannot prevent their athletes from travelling to South Africa.

"We believe strongly in the right, in the duty, of government to state clearly its position on apartheid, while equally respecting the rights of individuals," said British Sports Minister Colin Moynihan.

But the Scandinavians said they will continue to increase the pressure on South Africa.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Third rider killed on Isle of Man

LONDON (R) — A motorcycle rider was killed in practice Friday on Britain's Isle of Man Tourist Trophy (TT) circuit — the third to die on the treacherous course this week. Organisers said Phil Hogg, 23, came off his 250-CC Yamaha when he was practising for the first TT event later in the day. Tuesday a motorcycle rider and a sidecar team member were killed in separate crashes during practices. The 37-mile (60-km) circuit on the Irish Sea island has claimed 149 lives since racing began there in 1907.

### Shilton aims to forget Polish nightmare

LONDON (R) — Goalkeeper Peter Shilton hopes to exorcise the ghosts of Poland's last World Cup visit to Wembley when he celebrates a record-equalling 108th appearance for England Saturday. Shilton will join former captain Bobby Moore as England's two most capped soccer international when he lines up against the Poles in a European group two qualifier. Shilton, 39, first appeared in an England squad in 1969 and could take a major step towards his fourth World Cup finals if group leaders England take two points. Despite his glittering career, Shilton has never forgotten the night at Wembley 16 years ago when he conceded the goal which earned Poland the 1-1 draw which cost England their place in the 1974 finals in West Germany. "That's got to be the low point of nearly 20 years in the England team," Shilton said. "I got most of the blame."

### Pyatt set for title shot

LONDON (AP) — Chri Pyatt of England will challenge World Boxing Association light-middleweight champion Julian Jackson next month, it was announced Thursday. Promoter Frank Warren said Pyatt and the WBA champion, from the Virgin Islands, would meet in Pyatt's home town of Leicester, England, sometime in mid-July. A definite date for the bout would be set next week, Warren said. Jackson has been beaten only once in his 35-fight career and is out to unify the division for the first time in 13 years. Pyatt is a former European and Commonwealth light-middleweight champion. A former world champion from England, meanwhile, had his comeback bout postponed because of injury. Former world welterweight champ Lloyd Honeyghan's scheduled fight with American Bobby Joe Young June 7 was called off after Honeyghan suffered a sprained wrist in training.

### Tyson, Givens divorce final

SOMERVILLE, New Jersey (AP) — Heavyweight champion Mike Tyson and actress Robin Givens are officially divorced. Both Tyson, 22, and Givens, 24, were required to attend a hearing Thursday since they sought a dual divorce. But Givens did not appear at the 20-minute proceeding. Her attorney, Raoul Felder of New York City, asked superior court judge Graham T. Ross to accept Givens' counterclaim, despite her absence. But Ross denied Felder's application and acted solely on Tyson's complaint in finalizing the divorce. Felder maintained, however, that the denial did not matter to either himself or Givens because the actress already considered herself divorced. Tyson, who married Givens on Feb. 12, 1988, flew to the Dominican Republic on Valentine's Day, where he signed divorce papers. Givens signed the papers at a later date.

### FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1989

## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Peterson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** The Moon in Gemini today works best when you are conversing, exchanging ideas and exercising your mental skills. Jupiter's aspect in the evening lends us pleasure and fun. **ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** You have both feet on the ground today, and a lot can be accomplished. Handling siblings may be a challenge. **Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20)** Happiness comes from within. Spread your cheerful nature to those around you. Put weekend plans into effect. **GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** Focus on change and variation. Moon in Gemini brings out your feeling and thoughtful nature. Apply it to good use through Sunday. **MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21)** You are free to move about socially. Re-examine budget plans with your mate. Sibling energy is fun and will lead to a good time. **LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 23)** Organize your day, and avoid an early energy drain. It is a good day to be with nature. Help yourself by being aware of how you relate to others. **VIRGO (Aug. 24 to Sept. 22)** Life moves along with zest when there is something to look forward to. You may become energized by sensual feelings. **LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** A boring morning is a foretaste to a surprise-filled afternoon and evening. Jump in the fast lane when the opportunity arises. **SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** There is no point in arguing with older siblings. Remembering your own youth will help you to understand and solve the problem. **SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** Focus on career, business and getting ahead through self-improvement. Education is independence that which you seek. **CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Apply intuitive ideas to the workplace. Study the effects of proposed changes before you implement your visions. **AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** Worry over personal relationships passes, and you feel that a heavy burden has been lifted. Attraction to the opposite sex is revivifying. **PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Others may not mean what they say. Avoid accepting another person's feedback without careful consideration.

## Everest survivor taken to Tibetan monastery

KATMANDU (AP) — Rescuers Thursday found the only survivor from a group of six Polish climbers whose tents were hit by avalanches near the top of Mount Everest, a radio message said.

The survivor, Andrzej Marcinia, 29, was rescued at the expedition's camp one at a height of 6,000 metres (19,680 feet) and taken to Rangbuk monastery in Tibet, the message said.

Four of his Polish teammates were killed instantly early last Saturday, and another climber, Eugeniusz Chrobak, 52, died from injuries Sunday after huge avalanches hit their tents at camp three at an altitude of 7,200 metres (23,616 feet).

Marciniak and Chrobak had reached the peak of the 8,848-metre (29,028-foot) Everest, the world's highest mountain, on May 24 from the Nepalese side through the steep west ridge.

During their descent from the top they were joined by four Polish members of their support party at camp three. But they were unable to leave the camp because of bad weather, which forced them to stay at the camp until the avalanches hit.

## French Open round-up

# Agassi heads U.S. threat

PARIS (AP) — Andre Agassi loves being an American in Paris. "I would say that I get the best responses from the Europeans, especially in Italy, West Germany and here in France," the long-haired, teen-age Agassi said. "I depend on the U.S. for the criticism... constructive criticism."

Last year, Agassi, the no. 5 seed, reached the semifinals on his first visit to Roland Garros.

His first-round opponent then was the player he dispatched at the same stage Thursday, Paolo Canale of Italy. Once again, Agassi triumphed in straight sets. Once again, he lost only seven games.

This time it was 6-2, 6-2, 6-3 and Agassi said he was ready to go all the way to the title.

"I am mentally prepared to go all the way this time whereas last year the semifinals was almost all I could handle."

First up on center court Friday was defending women's champion Steffi Graf as the third round got under way in this famed Grand Slam event. She faced Austrian Nicole Pietrangeli, with an unfinished match between Tim Mayotte and Ronald Agenor to follow.

They were locked at 3-3 in the fourth set when darkness set in Thursday night. Mayotte won two out of the first three sets.

Mayotte, the no. 7 seed, was hoping to join six other Americans in the third round. They included no. 15 seed Michael Chang, Jay Berger, Jimmy Arias,

Jim Courier and Lawson Duncan.

Despite the best early American showing for five years, Ivan Lendl was still proving the man to beat on the surface that gave him his first Grand Slam title in 1984.

The 29-year-old Czechoslovakian cruised Thursday to a 6-1, 6-3, 6-1 victory over Derek Rostagno and moved closer towards his fourth French crown.

Lendl, who resides in the United States, has taken several years to perfect his English. Against Rostagno, he said, he had to try to understand a third language.

This year, umpires' instructions like "time" and "tiebreak" are being translated into French, and Lendl said he found it confusing.

"I have trouble understanding what is going on," Lendl said. "Not on the score, but when we change over I can't understand if he is saying 'quiet,' 'time,' or something nasty. I can count (in French) but I'm not that good. Next time I'll have to bring a dictionary."

The only seed to go down Thursday was America's Lori McNeil, no. 12 among the

women. She lost 6-2, 6-1 to Manon Bollegraf of the Netherlands. But McNeil's close friend, no. 4 seed Zina Garrison, also an American, beat Cathy Caverzasio of Italy 5-7, 6-3, 6-2.

No. 6 Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria, no. 7 Arantxa Sanchez of Spain and no. 6 Susan Sloane of the United States also advanced.

Agassi, who has been the subject of some critical press reports back home, said he feels more accepted in Europe, but only because the mentality of Americans is different.

"You can't blame the Americans, because we're spoiled. I am a spoiled American too," Agassi said. "We're used to having all the conveniences, so when we don't, we're disappointed. When we do, we want to know what else we can have. The Europeans seem to appreciate more what they have. I'm working on that."

Agassi said emergence of a genuine American threat in Paris this year was down to a different attitude to playing on clay. Tony Trabert, in 1955, was the last American man to win in Paris with the second of two consecutive titles.

"During the Connors-McEnroe era, the tendency was more towards the hard, faster courts, but I think the next generation will be more agile on clay," he said.

# C.L.R. James: sports writer and 'black Plato'

Sport has traditionally been disdained as a field for writers to exercise intellect and imagination. C.L.R. James, the West Indian scholar, Marxist thinker and cricket writer, who died in London this week aged 88, was the first of a generation of sports writers to prove the divide between high and low topics for journalism to be absurd.

By John Mehaffey

LONDON (R) — C.L.R. James, described by the Times of London as "the black Plato of our generation," was a protean intellectual who produced some of the finest cricket writing of a sport not for its gifted critics.

James, who died in London Tuesday aged 88, was a distinguished writer, scholar, critic and lecturer and leading Marxist thinker.

He was also responsible for the classic "Beyond a Boundary," which, according to English writer and broadcaster John Arlott, was "the most profound and searching discussion ever propounded on the game."

To James, sport was an integral part of human activity, shamefully neglected by social historians. A glance at the world showed that when the common people were not at work, one thing they wanted was organised sports and games. "They wanted them greedily, passionately,"

In cricket James found a sport worthy of his intellect and rare perception. Born in Trinidad in 1901, James was quickly captivated by a game which is part of the life-

conceptions as unique natural ability but through a passionate commitment to an exceedingly complicated sport.

"No one could appear to play more gaily, more spontaneously, more attractively, than Constantine," James wrote.

"In reality he was a cricketer of concentrated passion, irked during all his big cricket life by the absence of what he found only when playing for (his Trinidad club) Shannon."

James left England for the United States in 1938 and he was not seen another cricket match for 15 years.

His eye remained as sharp as ever and he wrote a disconcertingly perceptive article for the Manchester Guardian on his return to England in 1953 in which he argued that the demand for security had devalued what was essentially an artistic activity.

Later his involvement in the West Indian islands' struggle for self-government was reflected in an essay on Rohan Kanhai published in 1966.

"In Kanhai's batting what I have found is a unique pointer of the West Indian quest for identity, for ways of expressing our potential bursting at every seam," James wrote.

After describing a series of Kanhai innings, James wrote of a brilliant century scored during a friendly match: "At that moment, Edgbaston in 1964, the West Indies could strike from his feet the dust of centuries. The match did not impose any

burdensome weight of responsibility. He was free as few West Indians have been free."

Over the years even sports fans queried James's claims for an activity which essentially involved a piece of wood striking a lump of leather.

But he remained unrepentant. "Cricket is a much a part of history as books written are part of history," he wrote just four years ago.

"Far more people play cricket, look at cricket and scan the cricket news in the morning paper, far more take part in those activities than those who read books."

An exhibition celebrating his life must be the only time a letter to Leon Trotsky and an article about an English cricket captain had been displayed in the same room.

"The real problem is that we maintain that ancient distinction between social life and games."

Throughout the final years of his life James maintained his interest in cricket and politics and a further essay in 1985 gave a characteristically acute view of England all-rounder Ian Botham's batting technique.

An exhibition celebrating his life was staged in London in 1986 and curious visitors were able to view what surely must be the only time a letter to Leon Trotsky and an article about current England captain David Gower had been displayed in the same room.

## GOREN BRIDGE

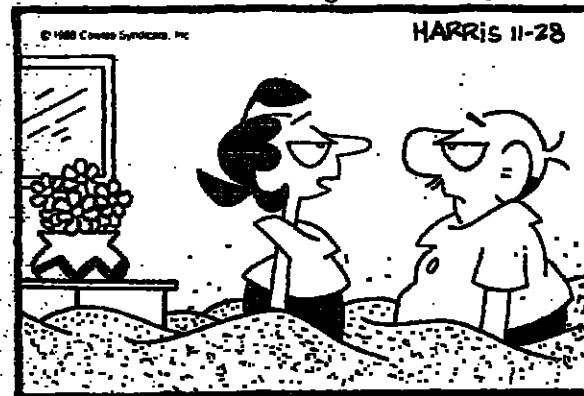
BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
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### ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠ A K 10 9 5 ♥ J 3 ♦ 8 7 6 ♣ 6 2  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
3 ♠ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?  
A.—This is not a question of which game you want to play; it's a matter of whether there's a slam. Since partner might need reassurance about the quality of your spade suit, jump to four spades. That shows a very good suit with little or nothing on the side.
- Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠ Q 9 4 ♥ A J 7 ♦ 6 4 ♣ A Q J 9 8  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?  
A.—For his vulnerable one-spade overall, partner should have a reasonable five-card suit and a fair hand. You have a very sound opening bid, and the combined assets should produce game. Jump to four spades.
- Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠ 7 ♥ A Q K 5 ♦ K Q J 10 2 ♣ 8 7 3  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 2 ♠ 3 ♠  
What do you bid now?  
A.—Since there is a strong likelihood that partner is short in clubs, prospects for game are bright, and it costs nothing to investigate an alternative contract en route. The way the auction has developed, partner could easily have a four- or even five-card heart suit. Bid three hearts. If partner doesn't raise hearts, we would take our chances in five diamonds.
- Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**  
♠ K 10 9 5 ♥ Q 10 3 ♦ K 8 7 ♣ K 6 2

## THE BETTER HALF.

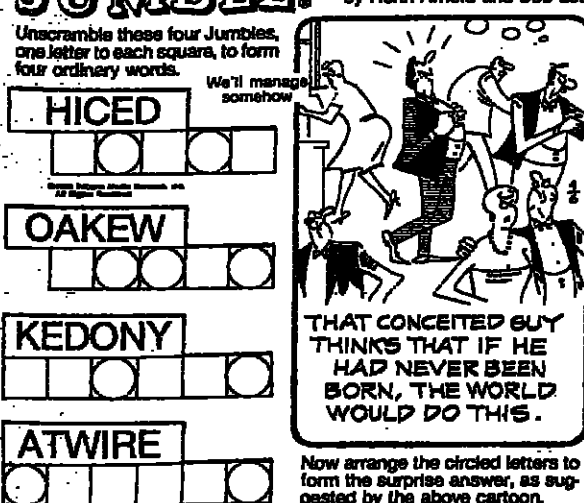
By Harris



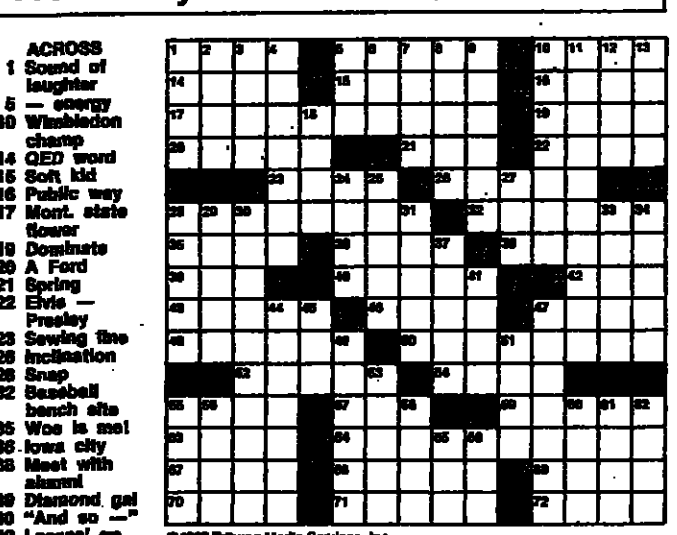
"I never feel like vacuuming. You never feel like vacuuming. We can't let it go much longer, you know."

## JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

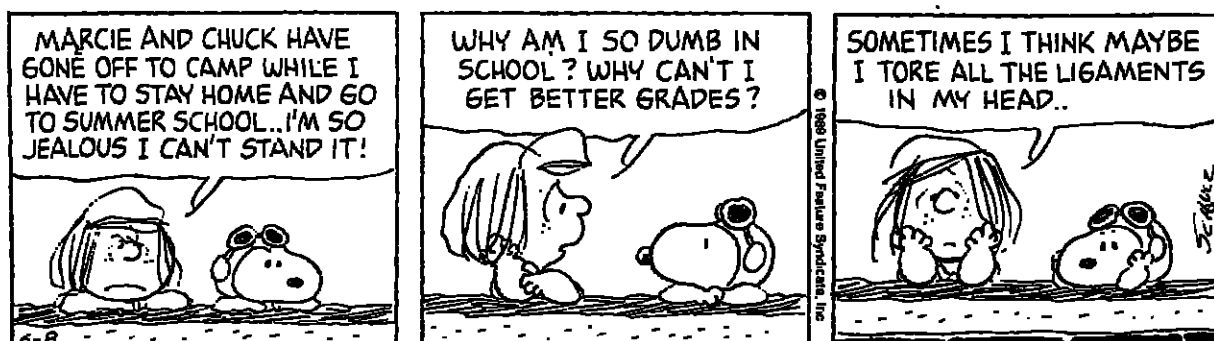


## THE Daily Crossword by Len Elliott



- Across**
- Sound of laughter
  - energy
  - Whimpering
  - QED word
  - Soft kid
  - Public way
  - Most state
  - Sower
  - Ford
  - Spring
  - Style
  - Freshly
  - Sewing line
  - Incubation
  - Snap
  - Baseball
  - bench
  - Woo is met
  - Iowa city
  - Meet with
  - Diamond
  - "And so"
  - Lowest
  - "Be"
  - (Reaction)
  - A Tensile
  - Precious
  - Carelessly
  - Orchestra
  - Store
  - Engine sound
  - When Hector
  - Roger's kin
  - Canoe's land
  - A few
  - Girl
  - Gait
  - Taste
  - Short tail
  - Gases
  - Run away
  - Strawberry field
- Down**
- Cupbearer of the gods
  - Saboteur
  - Boaters
  - Carillon
  - Uzbek
  - Possessive
  - Some popes
  - Take as one's
  - (Saw)
  - Impulse
  - Set up
  - Prospector
  - Angel topper
  - Bluff place
  - Robt.
  - Med. subj.
  - Notes
  - Fr., Sp. et al.
  - Sp. composer
  - E.S.
  - Certain
  - Eastern fiddle
  - Like some
  - Sports groups
  - Ice mass
  - Track event
  - "see my"
  - Pilot
  - (Tern)
  - 45 Ft. — T
  - Big cat
  - Brilliant fish
  - Round pin
  - Movie dog
  - Skin opening
  - Race game
  - Per
  - Festival
  - M. Kett.
  - Uncanny
  - Insight
  - Golf gadget

## Peanuts



B.C.

BY JOHNNY HART



## Andy Capp





# Peking siege enters fourth week with fresh protests

PEKING (Agencies) — About 500 students chanted and burned copies of a Communist Party daily newspaper Friday outside the paper's office to protest the state-run media's condemnation of their pro-democracy movement.

An estimated 10,000 students began the fourth week of their occupation of Tiananmen Square in central Peking Friday, but soldiers appeared for a third straight day in another sign a government crackdown may be coming.

In the newspaper protest, students shouted, "Rip it up and burn it," as they crumpled into a narrow lane outside the office's entrance. They threw dozens of copies of the newspaper, the Beijing Daily, into a bonfire and tossed wadded newspapers into the building compound.

"They write a lot of false things," one student said. "We want to burn the newspaper to show our anger."

The Beijing Daily is controlled by the city's Communist Party and is known for its conservative views.

The students were angered over an article in Thursday's edition quoting a student leader as

saying there was serious dissension among student factions leading the six-week-old movement.

On Sunday, students intent on marching 1,000 kilometres north to join their colleagues in Peking have left campuses in Nanking, and evaded security forces, residents in the southern city said.

"The students are in contact and we know they are still going," a Nanking teacher said by telephone.

He said 836 students had set off Thursday and reached neighbouring Anhui province in their long march northwards.

"Nanking ordered the army not to let them out of Jiangsu province but they still got out," the teacher said.

But two students from the United States accompanying the march were stopped by officials, interrogated and sent back to their campuses in Nanking.

Thousands of students have set

up tents and makeshift shelters in Tiananmen Square, announcing in defiance of martial law that they will stay there at least until June 20 when parliament is due to meet.

The Nanking marchers hope to make it to the northern capital by the end of June.

Pro-democracy students are also occupying the centre of the southern city with numbers of protesters fluctuating from several hundred to several thousand.

In Peking, more than 1,000 helmeted troops appeared in front of the main railway station Friday to make a show of force near the students on Tiananmen, two kilometres away.

The People's Liberation Army soldiers emerged from the station, jogged through the surrounding neighbourhood and then returned to the station, where they have been encamped since the occupation began at Tiananmen.

They did not approach the square, occupied by nearly 10,000 students since May 13 in defiance of martial law.

It was the third straight day that troops have appeared on city streets, reinforcing government

pronouncements that the army is poised to carry out martial law orders.

Chinese sources said factories and other businesses were ordering workers to participate in a pro-government march through central Peking later Friday.

Several sources said workers were being paid 10 yuan (\$2.70), and bread and eggs to join the rally.

Marches in support of Premier Li Peng, who declared martial law for much of Peking May 20, were staged in Peking suburbs in the past few days, but participants appeared bored and said they had been ordered to attend.

The propaganda blitz against the students even reached the storefront of the U.S. fast-food restaurant Kentucky Fried Chicken, located near Tiananmen. A large banner outside the restaurant read: "Maintain stability and unity. Protect order in the capital."

Several joint venture hotels catering to foreigners also have put up signs reading "Take a clearcut stand against bourgeois liberalisation" — a reference to China's catchphrase for acceptance of Western ideas.



Argentine police arrest supermarket looters in the southern suburbs of Rosario, the country's second largest city, after widespread chaos and ransacking last week.

## Argentina detains leftist leaders; cities return to normal

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Schools were expected to reopen Friday in the northern city of Rosario, after at least 14 people were killed nationwide in food riots ignited by the worst economic crisis in recent memory.

Leaders of the opposition workers' party, meanwhile, denied government charges Thursday that they had been encouraging poor, hungry Argentines to loot grocery markets, butcher shops and food warehouses.

Jorge Altamira, the presidential candidate of the leftist Workers' Party, and five other party leaders were arrested Thursday, but formal charges against them were not disclosed by the government.

"We were in favour of better salaries, food, returning suspended and fired workers to their jobs, and... a general strike," said Altamira, one of the losers in the May 14 presidential election. Peronist Party candidate Carlos Menem won the election.

The government allegations amount to "ideological persecu-

tion," Altamira contended.

In the capital and the northern city of Rosario, 14 people have died in the past four days, the Interior Ministry said Thursday evening in its first official tally. Preliminary reports from police and hospitals had put the death toll at 16.

President Raul Alfonsín's government acknowledged after the looting began that poverty has widened in the last several months with skyrocketing prices, unemployment and inflation.

But government authorities claimed slum dwellers were encouraged to rise up by unidentified agitators. They also contended the agitators attacked police.

Federal Judge Gerardo Larrañe, presiding over a section of Buenos Aires where much of the unrest took place, ordered the arrest of the workers party leaders and the search and closure of all their offices in the metropolitan area.

Larrañe said his order was based on "prima facie evidence showing that party activists

encouraged in large measure" rioting in towns under his jurisdiction, including San Miguel, where four people were killed, and Moreno, where three others died.

Lootings and clashes have occurred sporadically since last week in Argentina's four largest cities, and a number of provincial capitals.

Before the rioting subsided, Alfonsín had declared a state of siege, suspending civil liberties, several thousand paramilitary police were sent to Rosario and small bombs exploded in Buenos Aires. A supermarket in Mendoza also was fire-bombed.

More than 80 people were seriously injured during the worst wave of rioting, which began Monday, and more than 2,000 were arrested, according to the Interior Ministry.

In an effort to halt the looting, the government handed out thousands of baskets of food in several provinces, set up soup kitchens and imposed new regulations on distribution of basic commodities like flour, sugar and pasta.

## Column

Last judgment may lose lioncloths

ROME (R) — Some of the clothes painted over the original naked bodies of Michelangelo's "Last Judgment" fresco in the Vatican's Sistine Chapel may be stripped off by restorers. Fabrizio Mancinelli, director of the project, told the Italian religious magazine 30 Giorni (30 days) that some garments painted onto the figures when the work was touched up in the 18th century could be removed when restoration starts next year. But veils painted over the hips of about 30 figures for reasons of propriety on the orders of Pope Pius IV would have to stay on because their 16th century artist had used the same fresco technique as Michelangelo, Mancinelli said. Michelangelo painted "The Last Judgment," a huge fresco filled with writhing naked bodies and conceived as a warning to the faithful, above the altar between 1535 and 1541. "Any operational decision (on the clothing) will be considered very carefully," 30 Giorni quoted Mancinelli as saying. It released an advance text of the article Thursday.

## Bush surprises is Denis Thatcher

LONDON (AP) — U.S. first lady Barbara Bush delighted photographers and television cameras at 10 Downing Street Thursday with an impulsive kiss to the hand of Denis Thatcher, the spouse of the British prime minister. Thatcher was waiting outside the prime minister's front door to greet Mrs. Bush while their mates met inside for nearly two hours on a wide range of international issues, including the recent North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) decisions on arms control approaches to the Soviet Union. When the U.S. secret service rushed Mrs. Bush to the door, Thatcher, in the European style, kissed her hand. Photographers asked for one more shot as Thatcher and Mrs. Bush parted. With a wide smile on her face, Mrs. Bush turned around, grabbed Thatcher's hand and planted a big kiss on it.

## China offers political insurance

PEKING (R) — Businessmen in China can do little to prevent rebellions, strikes and other unrest, but in at least one city they may buy insurance against such irritations. The state-run insurance company of Fushun, in northeastern Liaoning province, is offering foreign investors a new policy against political risk, the official New China News Agency reported Friday. A spokesman for the firm was quoted as saying the policy would compensate foreign investors for losses resulting from wars, rebellions, strikes and other acts of violence.

## London repays centuries-old debt

LONDON (R) — The city of London has repaid a debt of gratitude to an English village which came to the aid of the capital's plague victims more than 350 years. In 1625 the people of Shavell, in central England, sent £15 pounds and seven shillings to help Londoners "impoverished by ye plague."

## Herein-condoms man seized

SYDNEY (R) — A Lebanese who tried to smuggle 250 grams of heroin in 34 condoms concealed inside his body was arrested at Sydney airport Friday, a customs spokesman said. Christos Samaras, 48, was detained after being X-rayed. He boarded the flight at Abu Dhabi and flew via Singapore. Samaras was remanded in custody until later in the month on a charge of trying to import the drug.

## Global weather (major world cities)

	3PM	MAX	Weather
AMSTERDAM	14	19	55-Cloudy
ATHENS	14	27	57-Clear
BAGDAD	28	32	82-Clear
BANGKOK	25	32	77-33-91-Cloudy
BARRANCO	13	22	55-Cloudy
CAIRO	20	28	68-35-85-Clear
CHICAGO	14	24	57-Rain
COPENHAGEN	06	15	57-Cloudy
FRANKFURT	07	21	50-Cloudy
GENOVA	12	23	54-70-Cloudy
HONG KONG	25	31	77-81-Cloudy
ISTANBUL	16	21	61-72-Clear
LONDON	13	15	55-Dry
LOS ANGELES	15	20	59-Cloudy
MADRID	12	24	54-76-Clear
MEXICO	12	24	54-76-Clear
MOSCOW	01	22	34-72-115-Clear
MUNICH	01	22	34-72-115-Clear
NEW DELHI	27	41	81-104-Clear
NEW YORK	21	28	70-82-Clear
PARIS	09	18	48-64-Clear
ROME	18	24	64-75-Cloudy
SEOUL	15	24	59-75-Cloudy
TAIPEI	25	31	77-88-Fair



Ranasinghe Premadasa

## Sri Lanka wants Indians out by end of July

COLOMBO (AP) — President Ranasinghe Premadasa said Thursday he will ask India to withdraw its peacekeeping troops from Sri Lanka by the end of July, two years after they arrived.

"I would like to see the last of the Indian troops leave Sri Lanka by the end of July," Premadasa told a Buddhist gathering at a temple in Battaramulla, 12 kilometres southeast of Colombo.

The first Indian soldiers arrived in Sri Lanka July 30, 1987, hours after Premadasa's predecessor, J. R. Jayawardene, and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi signed a peace accord.

The accord was aimed at ending a Tamil rebellion for an independent homeland and provided for Indian policing to disarm Tamil guerrillas whose seven-year-old separatist war was claimed 9,000 lives.

The number of Indian soldiers swelled from the initial 3,000 to 70,000 as confrontation with Tamil militants increased. An estimated 45,000 Indian soldiers are still deployed in northern and eastern Sri Lanka where most of the Tamil Hindu minority lives.

More than 700 soldiers have died in the peacekeeping operations in the Sri Lankan jungles.

"India's action to call back the peacekeeping force during the next two months will be considered as a favour. I have no doubt that India will do so," Premadasa said.

Since assuming office five months ago, Premadasa has repeatedly said he wants Indian soldiers to withdraw, but this was the first time he set a timetable.

He said he will shortly ask Gandhi to mark the second anniversary with the withdrawal of the "entirety of the Indian troops."

Referring to a summit of the heads of seven South Asian nations later this year, Premadasa said Sri Lanka cannot host such a meeting "when a foreign army is operating in the country."

## Uno — Japan's 18th postwar prime minister

TOKYO (R) — Sosuke Uno became the 18th postwar prime minister of Japan Friday, succeeding Noboru Takeshita who stepped down over the Recruit sales-for-favours scandal.

Uno, foreign minister until Friday, pledged to clean up the Japanese political system, rocked by one of the nation's worst political scandals since World War II.

The salt-and-pepper haired Uno, 65, became premier after both upper and lower houses of parliament approved the choice, and despite a last-minute challenge from within his party.

He earlier survived a stormy meeting of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) at which his executives named him party president, a post which effectively guarantees the premiership by virtue of the LDP majority in Parliament.

In a dramatic move, 44 LDP members boycotted the party caucus. Other members who were present rallied at the LDP hierarchy, claiming the process of naming Uno was undemocratic.

but later acquiesced.

Former Transport Minister Masajiro Shiokawa was named chief cabinet secretary, a cabinet-level post. The chief cabinet secretary acts as top government spokesman.

In the powerful senior posts of the LDP, Uno elevated acting Secretary-General Hashimoto Ryutaro to secretary-general. Hashimoto, although himself one of the many possible candidates to succeed Takeshita, was instrumental in securing Uno's appointment.

Uno named former Minister of International Trade and Industry Keijiro Murata as the chairman of the LDP policy affairs council and former Construction Minister Kiyoshi Mizuno as chairman of the party's executive board.

Uno was expected to name all his cabinet choices by midnight (1500 GMT).

At a news conference, Uno pledged sweeping reforms of a political system shaken to its roots by Recruit and said he did not plan early elections for the lower house.

"The first thing I must do is to faithfully pursue the party's plan for political reform," Uno said. "This includes party reform, electoral reform, and parliamentary reform, as well as doing away with the (intra-party) factions."

Uno denied any connection with the Recruit affair, in which 13 people have been arrested on corruption charges and another six indicted but not detained.

The chairman of Uno's support organisation resigned Friday over unexpected revelations that he had received 10,000 unlisted shares from Recruit, a publishing and telecommunications company.

"As you know, this is a volunteer group, and this has nothing to do with me, my office or my secretaries," Uno said. "We have not received anything from Recruit."

He said he would quit his faction, led by former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone. Critics had feared he would be controlled by Nakasone, who himself quit the LDP this week over links to Recruit.

## Rain, tremors hamper rescue of trapped Philippine miners

DAVAO, Philippines (R) — Rain and ground vibrations are hampering attempts to rescue goldminers trapped in southern Philippine mountainside tunnels by landslides, officials said Friday.

They said rescuers could not move deeper into passages leading to 13 blocked tunnels in the mountainous Monkayo region, 50 kilometres north of Davao on Mindanao Island, for fear of more cave-ins caused by the heavy rains.

Lito Lupo, civil defence operations chief, said only 137 of 300 to 400 miners caught in the tunnels

by Tuesday's landslide had been recovered alive.

One survivor, Larry Abasolo, said in hospital Thursday night only five of the 100 miners he was working with got out when their tunnel caved in. "I fear they are still trapped because it is hard to get out of that place," Abasolo said.

He did not know how many miners were in the other tunnels.

The military, who said earlier 13 people died in the cave-in and a fire that broke out after the landslide and levelled about 150 shanties outside the workings, said each tunnel could hold about

150 workers.

Luis Jacinto, mining director for the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Davao, said fewer than a hundred could still be trapped in the 13 blocked tunnels.

Jacinto said his estimate was based on accounts of tunnel operators, who said they had 600 miners in the tunnels.

"We have safely accounted for 535 people so far," Jacinto said. This included 135 who escaped after the cave-in and 400 who left hours earlier after detecting ground vibrations.

## Brazil seeks help to protect Amazon

LONDON (R) — The biggest threat facing Brazil's rain forests is the country's huge foreign debt, a Brazilian official said as he launched a plea for more money to help protect the Amazon.

Fernando Mesquita, president of the Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources, told a news conference in London Thursday Brazil was taking steps to halt destruction of its rain forest but needed foreign help to find new ways to develop the Amazon.

"Up to now the First World (industrialised countries) has forced us to exploit and degrade

our own natural resources ... without any concrete response to our needs," he said.

Brazil — the Third World's biggest debtor with debts totalling \$115 billion — was studying the idea of "debt for nature" swaps, Mesquita said.

Under the scheme, a company or bank could exchange Brazilian debt for investments in projects that protect the environment. He said the government had already designated 111 conservation areas which needed as much as \$2 billion in investment.

Mesquita said Brazil was also seeking technical and finan-

cial help for research into the potential commercial use of the rain forest's unique range of plant and animal species.

But Brazil was firmly opposed to supranational controls over its rain forest, he said.

Scientists estimate the Amazon jungle is shrinking by about 30,000 square kilometres every year, as cattle ranchers slash and burn huge swathes of forest to create grazing land.

Some fear that the carbon dioxide gas released by the fires contributes to global warming and that the loss of vast tracts of forest threatens to upset the world's climate.

## AIDS conference offers no major breakthrough

MONTREAL (R) — Health officials from around the world will disclose new evidence of the relentless spread of AIDS at a conference starting this weekend, with little to offer in the way of a major breakthrough in prevention or cure.

But the Fifth International Conference on AIDS, which begins Sunday, will hear about basic scientific detective work which has helped develop understanding of the fatal disease.

Scientists will add new detail, gleaned from laboratories across the globe, to what is already known about the workings of the AIDS virus.

There is no known cure for the disease, which is spread mainly

through sexual contact and contaminated blood. It kills by destroying the body's natural defence system.

Jonathan Mann, director of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Global Programme on AIDS, is expected to tell the conference the number of confirmed cases in the world could total five to six million by the end of the century.

The number worldwide is currently estimated at less than half a million.

Health officials from the United States, the country with the largest number of AIDS sufferers, will report that the number of cases among homosexuals has increased at a slower rate but those

concerning intravenous drug abusers, their sexual partners and their children have increased sharply.

Through April, a total of nearly 93,000 AIDS cases had been reported in the United States, the U.S. government has reported.

Of those, 88 per cent have been linked either to male homosexual or bisexual contact or intravenous drug use, and only seven per cent to heterosexual contact.

In Africa, by contrast, AIDS is spreading principally via heterosexual contact. Africa currently has the highest rate of AIDS infection in the world. Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda is expected to discuss the situation there in an opening session.

## Picasso contemporary still painting — for fun at 88

By Feizal Samath  
Reuter

COLOMBO — George Keyt, who once had a joint exhibition with Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque in London, is still painting at the age of 88 — for enjoyment rather than profit.

Sri Lanka's most highly regarded artist does not travel or teach.

"I once had an opportunity to meet Picasso," he says "but I dislike travel so I missed the chance."

"I do what I enjoy most, painting... though not as much

as before," he says.

"I do not work for commercial gain. I paint because I love to and it makes me feel good," the silver-haired, frail artist said in an interview at his small home at Piliyandala, 20 kilometres south of Colombo where a birthday exhibit of 88 of his paintings was held in April.

Dressed simply in a Batik Sarong and a collarless sleeved shirt, Keyt says he does not know how many paintings he has completed.

"I have done thousands of paintings," he says. "I don't have any count of my work."

Born to a wealthy family of Dutch descent, Keyt spent most of his life in the cool highlands of Kandy in central Sri Lanka. He won art prizes in school but did not originally take the visual arts seriously.

"I had literary aspirations," he says. "I wrote poetry."

At 23, Keyt started painting. His first works depicted the people of Kandy, their culture and the rolling tea fields that surround the city.

In 1939, overcome by an emotional crisis, he stopped painting for a period and turned to writing poetry. Three volumes of his work were pub-

lished.

Returning to art, Keyt worked on a big mural for the Gothami Buddhist temple in Colombo. This painting of the Buddha and his mission is regarded as many as his best work.

It was the Gothami painting, as it is popularly known, that gave Keyt international recognition, drawing art lovers and painters to his home at Kandy.

He says, however, that he always found dancers and musicians better company than other painters.

Keyt draws inspiration from

Hindu mythology and Hindu and Buddhist culture and worked for many years in India. His second wife, Kusum Parmar, whom he married in 1973, is Indian.

The National Gallery of Modern Art in New Delhi displays Keyt's paintings as does London's Zwemmer gallery where about 50 years ago he held a joint exhibition with Picasso and Braque.

Keyt works on the theme on love and his subjects now are mostly nude women.

"I do it to impart to the special aesthetic a

sual pleasures of the human body," he says. "I use numerous subjects in Hindu mythology to serve as my symbols."

"When I work, I am sometimes not quite aware of what I am doing," he says. "The end product is not what I conceived in my mind when I started on a painting."

He believes in Hinduism but does not get involved in organised religion. "I believe in the divine," he says. "I regard my work as being a depiction of the divine."

Keyt does not teach.

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